



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Japan: Official Criticizes U.S. for Changing Stance at WTO Talks

OW0305035596 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 2 May 96 Morning Edition p 5

[FBIS Translated Text] The deadline on telecommunications negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO) has been extended till February in 1997. Touching on this issue at the 1 May press conference, Administrative Vice Minister Haruki Matsuno of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications criticized the United States for changing its stance, and said: "It was all because of the sudden opposition of the United States just before the deadline for the negotiations on such issues as international communications and satellites."

Japan: Chambers of Commerce Agree To Review Business Practices

OW0305102396 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 3 May 96 Morning Edition p 5

[FBIS Translated Text] The Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan have agreed to strengthen their cooperation and begin reviewing closed business practices by Japanese companies. At a 9 May joint meeting, they will exchange notes on the agreement and inaugurate a joint council to promote cooperation. Recently, Keizaidoyukai [Japanese Association of Corporate Executives] also established a "committee on deregulation and business issues" to review private-sector business practices. The inauguration of a new body by the Japanese and U.S. chambers of commerce will further promote moves to review vested rights given to the business circles.

In 1986, the Japanese and U.S. chambers of commerce established a "committee for cooperation" to facilitate Japan's imports and increase foreign-affiliated firms' investments. However, the committee has become inactive recently. Thus, its secretariat concluded that "the committee needs to be reorganized to review business practices and discuss relaxing government regulations and other issues."

Specifically, they will rename the committee a "cooperation conference." They will also establish new forums such as a general council and a steering committee to discuss measures to ease governmental and private-sector regulations on housing imports and others and to urge the government and the ruling parties to lift the ban on establishing holding companies. Yuzaburo Mogi, president of soy sauce brewer Kikkoman, and J.W. Beagles [name as transliterated], president of Boeing of Japan, will be appointed chairmen of the general

council. The post is also in charge of the cooperation conference.

Japan: Official on Disclosure of Chubu Airport Bidding Information

OW0305061196 Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese 2 May 96 Morning Edition p 7

[FBIS Translated Text] The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has submitted to the U.S. Congress its annual report, which includes a demand for Japan to open up its construction market in connection with the Chubu New International Airport project. Touching on this demand at the 1 May news conference, Minoru Toyoda, vice administrative minister of the Ministry of Transportation, stated: "Since no decision has been made yet as to which agency will be in charge of the new airport project, we have no intention to reject advance by foreign enterprises." Thus, Vice Minister Toyoda disclosed that when the decision is made on the responsible organ, the bidding information will also be disclosed to U.S. enterprises.

According to the interim report on the seventh five-year program for airport improvement released last August, the Chubu New International Airport will be built off the coast of Tokoname in Aichi Prefecture. The United States regards this project as a chance for advance into the Japanese market following the Kansai International Airport project.

Japan: Legislator Says U.S. Not To Request Collective Self-Defense

OW0305042496 Tokyo KYODO in English 0354 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, May 2 KYODO — The United States will not ask Japan for collective self-defense that may require Tokyo to review interpretation of its war-renouncing constitution, U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry said Thursday [2 May], according to a Japanese ruling party lawmaker.

Perry told Tsutomu Kawara, security research panel chief of the ruling coalition partner Liberal Democratic Party, the U.S. has agreed that Japan will implement a planned review of a Japan-U.S. defense cooperation guideline within the framework of its constitution, Kawara said.

Kawara, a former Defense Agency director general, quoted Perry as telling him a new guideline will be established with Washington dealing flexibly with the issue.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto has stated he has no wish to discuss a review in the interpretation of the constitution.

The Japanese Government takes the stand that using the right of collective self-defense goes against the constitution, but some politicians both in the ruling and opposition camps have advocated a change in the interpretation in order to step up defense cooperation with the U.S.

On April 17, Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton agreed to "initiate a review of the 1978 guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation to build upon the close working relationship already established between Japan and the United States."

Perry also said China should not see reinforced Japan-U.S. defense cooperation as a threat.

Instead, Beijing can be thankful for the Japan-U.S. security arrangements' contribution toward regional stability to secure China's economic development, Kawara quoted Perry as saying.

The U.S. defense chief also said North Korean troops' recent entries into a sensitive buffer zone with South Korea at the truce village of Panmunjom were just politically motivated, aiming to promote the signing of a peace pact with the U.S.

Japan: U.S. Defense Cooperation Review To Include 'Direct' Attack

OW0305010296 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 2 May 96 Morning Edition p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Regarding the review of "guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation" in the Japan-U.S. joint declaration on security, the Japanese Government decided 1 May to fully revise not only the guidelines for assisting U.S. forces in an emergency in the Far East but also the guidelines for dealing with direct aggression against Japan. The existing guidelines for defense cooperation say that Japan "by itself will repel limited, small-scale aggression." However, Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MOFA] and the Defense Agency [DA] sources have revealed that the contents of new guidelines for both "emergencies in Japan" and "emergencies in the Far East" will attach importance to Japan-U.S. defense cooperation.

The new National Defense Program Outline approved at a cabinet meeting in November 1995 stipulates: "Should direct aggression occur, take immediate responsive action....in appropriate cooperation with the United States, in order to repel such aggression, at the earliest possible stage." This, then, changes the conventional view of cooperation and replaces it with one that regards

full-scale, joint Japan-U.S. operations as the basis of dealing with contingencies in Japan. It can be said that the new defense cooperation guidelines will follow this idea.

The existing guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation were formulated in November 1978. The guidelines indicate basic views on the following points: 1) posture for deterring aggression against Japan; 2) actions in response to an armed attack against Japan; and 3) Japan-U.S. cooperation in the event of contingencies in the Far East.

On dealing with emergencies in Japan, the guidelines stipulate that when it is difficult to repel aggression alone because of the scale, type, or other factors of aggression, "Japan will repel it with the cooperation of the United States." The article on the concept of operations in the guidelines also indicates a separation of duties by the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] and U.S. forces, saying: "The SDF will primarily conduct defensive operations in Japanese territory and its surrounding waters and airspace. U.S. forces will conduct operations to supplement functional areas that exceed the capacity of the SDF." Both Japan and the United States have so far repeatedly studied joint operations based on these defense cooperation guidelines.

However, although an invasion of Hokkaido by USSR forces was assumed in the Cold War era, such a scenario is no longer realistic.

It seems that by reviewing defense cooperation guidelines and attaching importance to the handling of regional conflicts, the MOFA and the DA want to strengthen cooperation between the SDF and U.S. forces and include measures against contingencies in Japan in such cooperation. They also hope that "defense cooperation will include such operations as protection and transportation of Japanese overseas and mass refugees in emergency," (as stated by DA source).

There are views within the government that "mutual cooperation in the event of an attack against Japan is important," (as stated by Chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama). If defense cooperation guidelines are fully revised in connection with contingencies in both Japan and the Far East, there is a great possibility that Japan-U.S. defense cooperation in various emergencies will be reinforced in the form of agreements in addition to the acquisition and cross-servicing agreement (ACSA), which is intended for peace time. It is expected Japan will inevitably face constitutional arguments, including the issue of use of collective self-defense rights.

**Tokyo Contemplating Studying Overseas Japanese
Emergency Evacuation**

OW0305103196 Tokyo KYODO in English
0755 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO — The government plans to study how to evacuate overseas Japanese, help a large number of refugees and join in UN sanctions in case of possible conflicts or other emergencies in the Far East, government sources said Friday [3 May].

Japan plans to review and strengthen the 1978 guidelines for Japan-U.S. defense cooperation, based on an accord struck April 17 in Tokyo between Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The feasibility study aims to clarify what Japan can do to cooperate with U.S. forces in case of such emergencies, while keeping away from changing its stand that using the right of collective self-defense goes against its war-renouncing constitution.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Seiroku Kajiyama, the top government spokesman, has suggested the need to legislate measures to tackle the emergencies, apparently through such means as amending the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) Law.

The government studied the three topics in the spring of 1994 when it suspected North Korea of trying to develop nuclear weapons.

At the time, then Foreign Minister Koji Wakizawa said Japan, generally speaking, would cooperate with economic sanctions or an embargo based on a UN resolution within the framework of the constitution.

But if China, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, votes against an embargo, establishment of a fleet for sea blockade could not be based on a UN resolution.

In such a case, it is not clear whether Japan, which bans the use of collective self-defense, can join such a multinational fleet, the sources said.

The current legislation allows Japan to use SDF air-planes to carry and rescue overseas Japanese, but it is controversial whether it can deploy fighter planes or destroyers to escort them, they said.

The Defense Agency also recognizes that legislation will be required to carry foreigners on SDF planes.

The Japanese Government assumes a possible outflow of a massive number of refugees over a short period in case of an emergency on the Korean peninsula or a collapse of the North Korean regime.

Japan has accepted some 20,000 Indochinese refugees over a longer period, but would need to study how to transport, rescue, accommodate and officially recognize a large number of refugees coming to Japan at one time, the sources said.

**Japan: Iwakuni Mayor Hints at Accepting Futenma
Planes**

OW0305080696 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 2 May 96 Evening Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] At a 1 May city assembly plenary session, Iwakuni Mayor Yoshimitsu Kifune indicated for the first time that the city might agree to accept the transfer of some functions of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma [MCAS], Okinawa, to MCAS Iwakuni. Earlier, Kifune had opposed "transfer of any part of MCAS Futenma." However, in answer to a question as to how he would deal with the issue, the mayor said at the meeting: "If I am convinced that the transfer will not lead to expansion of the Iwakuni base functions, I will deal with the matter through a joint council comprised of the central and Yamaguchi prefectural governments and the city." In this way, he suggested that the city might agree to the transfer on condition that it not expand the functions of the Iwakuni base.

**Japan: Officials Urge Easing 'Apprehensions' of
Iwakuni Resident**

OW0305074796 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 3 May 96 Morning Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] On 2 May, Governor Hirai of Yamaguchi Prefecture and Iwakuni Mayor Kifune held talks with Director General Hideo Usui of the Defense Agency [DA] at the agency. Touching on the transfer of air-refueling tankers to Iwakuni Base — which has been set as a condition for the complete return of U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa — they requested sincere measures to ease the apprehensions of residents. After the talks, Governor Hirai stated: "If only we can convince residents, this issue can resolve itself." In this way, Hirai revealed his view that the transfer plan may be accepted if it becomes apparent that the plan will not lead to strengthening base functions.

**Japan: Text of Okinawa Local Governments'
Demands on Base Transfer**

OW0305095396 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese
1 May 96 Morning Edition p 22

[Text of a letter by the Central District Municipalities Association of Okinawa; dated 30 April 1996]

[FBIS Translated Text] Letter To Express Our Objection to Relocating Military Bases Within the Prefecture as Part of a Plan for Returning U.S. Military Bases to Japan and To Request Removal of Base Functions to Mainland Japan or to U.S. Territories in the Asia-Pacific Region

On 12 April 1996, shortly before a summit meeting between Japan and the United States, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale gave a joint news conference, announcing that the two countries had agreed to return all of Futenma Air Station to Okinawa (in five to seven years). It was joyous news that struck the people of Okinawa like a bolt from the blue.

But on 15 April, the Japan-U.S. Special Action Committee announced an interim report revealing that the agreement really meant all functions of Futenma Station would be kept intact, most of them relocated to or merged with other bases on Okinawa.

The people of Okinawa have been compelled to live with the U.S. military bases and have been under constant pressure from them for the past 50 years, since the end of the war. This agreement only means prolonging the unbearable pain of these people and can never be accepted as happy news. Indeed, it rejects the rising popular demand in Okinawa for return of the bases, belittles the extraordinary problems that stem from having such a disproportionately large number of bases, and ignores the Okinawan people's desperate pleas for protection of their human rights and their right to life.

We hereby make a stern and angry protest to both the Japanese and U.S. Governments about the current situation of the U.S. military bases in Okinawa, which has gone far beyond what the Okinawan people can endure, as well as about the governments' thinking on relocating, integrating, or activating functions as part of their plan for returning bases to Okinawa.

The Central District Municipalities Association of Okinawa (13 cities, towns, and villages) takes this opportunity to make a proposal.

1. As regards complete reversion of "Futenma Air Station," which has been one of the biggest military base issues, we express definite appreciation of the political decision of the two governments, inasmuch as it answers

the desires of the Okinawan people and falls into line with the prefectural government's "international city building concept" that has been envisioned as part of its "base reversion action program."

2. All the concerned people of the administration, landowner groups, industry, and academics of Okinawa are resolved to work together on the task of making the best use of all the sites of military bases such as Futenma Air Station that are due to be returned to Okinawa. The central government is requested to clarify its share of responsibility for this task by enacting a special law and to take other necessary administrative and financial actions.

3. The part of the committee's interim report proposing to move the military functions of Futenma Air Station to, or integrate them with, Kadena Air Base and the Kadena Ammunition Depot area only means further prolonging the pain of the people in the base areas who have suffered from base-caused damages for the past 50 years, and we can never accept it under any circumstances.

This position of ours applies to all actions meant to relocate, integrate, or newly activate functions of the bases within the prefecture.

4. While recognizing the importance of the Japan-U.S. security alliance, we see no reason why the people of Okinawa alone should take on all the burdens of the military bases.

A plan is now under way in the U.S. Government to reorganize or close military bases in the continental U.S. We request that the same plan be applied to the military bases on Okinawa and that in reassigning the bases and relocating and integrating their functions, the scope of actions taken for the purpose be expanded to include mainland Japan and U.S. territories in the Asian and Pacific region.

We strongly request that the Japanese and U.S. authorities take this stand in resolving the issues of the U.S. military bases on Okinawa.

Signed by Seiken Tobaru, chairman, Central District Municipalities Association of Okinawa Prefecture, on 30 April 1996, and addressed to the following:

President of the United States

U.S. Ambassador to Japan

Commander in Chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in Japan

Commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in Okinawa

Prime Minister of Japan

Foreign Minister

Heads of all political parties

Director General of the Defense Agency
Director General of the Defense Facilities Administration
Bureau Director of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency in Okinawa

Japan: Landowner Prepares To File Suit for Return of Sobe Plot

OW03051136 Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN
in Japanese May 96 Morning Edition p 22

[FBIS Translated Text] On 2 May, concerning the "illegal occupation" of the U.S. military's Sobe communications facility (known as the elephant cage) in Yomitan Village, Okinawa Prefecture, landowner Shoichi Chibana (aged 47), a grocer in Namihira, Yomitan Village, revealed that he will start preparations for taking legal action as early as after the "Golden Week" holidays, demanding eviction [akewatashi] of a plot of land within the facility [sentence as transliterated]. On the same day, the Okinawan Prefectural Land Expropriation Committee decided not to approve the national government's emergency use of Chibana's land plot within the Sobe site.

Chibana and the national government had just come to an amicable settlement through the Naha District Court on Chibana's request for a provisional injunction to allow him to visit his plot. Even after the lease contract for his land plot within the facility expired on 1 April, Chibana had been restricted from entering. He said: "It is only natural that the national government's emergency use of the facility was disapproved. Following the permission to enter the plot, I virtually won the emergency use case. This proves the national government's claims are nonsense."

Chibana also asserted: "The land expropriation committee discussed substantial deliberations, unlike the court, which rejected all applications by anti-war landowners as witnesses in the lawsuit on the proxy signing of the compulsory lease on military land. I would like to show my respect to the committee." He added: "Although I have no idea as to what result will be brought about (during the court trial), I cannot leave the matter as it is."

Japan: Interpretation 'Gap' in Security Pact With U.S. Viewed

OW0305113796 Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 28 Apr 96 Morning Edition p 4

[By Yoshihisa Komori]

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington, 27 April — Following the announcement of the Japan-U.S. Joint Declaration on Security, a delicate gap between the United States and Japan on their views on redefining Japan's

defense role has surfaced. The U.S. side sees the declaration as Japan's pledge to shoulder a new military role and expects that Japan will positively come to grips with the issue of working out a plan to support the U.S. Forces in emergency situations by giving flexibility to the government's conventional interpretation of the Constitution. Meanwhile, it seems that the Japanese side wants to maintain the conventional framework. If the gap becomes more clear, it may lead to the creation of a new "security friction" between Japan and the United States.

On 17 April, when the security declaration was announced, the WASHINGTON POST said in an editorial that "In exchange for the U.S. side's partial return of its military bases in Okinawa, Japan has expanded the limits of its negatively pacifist Constitution and agreed to provide more wide-ranging assistance to the United States' military operation." This represents the typical reaction by the U.S. side. It is safe to say that it was written with the expectation that the declaration would be taken as an expansion of the areas covered by Japan-U.S. security from the "Far East" to the "Asia-Pacific" region, and that Japan would not only come to grips with the issue of how to support the United States in emergency cases, but would also give flexible interpretation to the Constitution and eventually tolerate the exercise of its collective defense right.

On 21 April, THE NEW YORK TIMES, in its commentary titled "Japan May Finally Find Its Future in Military" said: 1) "Over the past 50 years, Japan has strictly limited its military strength merely to the nation's defense, but this position may change; 2) Thanks to the security declaration, Japan has managed to drive away an evil spirit of the past war and made a step toward bearing a new role in ensuring international security;" 3) "The declaration has eventually let Japan to get out of a cave, and in this sense, the declaration will serve as a epoch-making direction post;" 4) "Although Japan has been a big whale economically and a small fish militarily, the Japanese and the U.S. Governments have come to recognize that Japan will play a much greater role in the Asia-Pacific region from now on;" and 5) "It is fully conceivable that over the next few years, Japan will change the way it interprets Article 9 of the Constitution and come to make a military response to an overseas crisis that may affect Japan's security." Those views are mostly based on comments by U.S. Government authorities and experts on security affairs, and the article clearly indicates that a prevailing view in the United States is that basically, Japan's role in Japan-U.S. security arrangements will change owing to the joint declaration.

Researcher Robert Oa at Temple University told the LOS ANGELES TIMES that "in a sense that the declaration states that the Japan-U.S. security system will become a means for a mutual regional defense like NATO, the declaration marked an important turning point." This comment represents the prevailing views among the U.S. Government and is an expectation that Japan will make an approach different from the conventional way in dealing with emergency cases and exercising its collective defense right.

In that respect, Brookings Research Institute researcher Mike Mochizuki also said: "The U.S. intellectuals, to say the least, view the joint declaration as a pledged that Japan will make a big step in the direction of making the Japan-U.S. security system reciprocal." He added: "Although I do not think Japan will immediately revise the Constitution or change its interpretation of it, or set about such concrete work as conducting studies on legal problems with regard to emergency situations, there is an expectation within the United States that in dealing with those pending issues, Japan will make more daring and flexible approaches than before. However, in Japan, government leaders have repeatedly said that those pending issues should be dealt with through the current framework. Given this situation, it is feared that differences in position between Japan and the United States will be actualized."

In short, his comment indicates a wide difference between the U.S. Government's expectations and the realities in Japan in expanding Japan's security activity is beginning to appear.

Actually, despite the fact that the Japanese Government, following the announcement of the joint declaration, has announced its stand of studying legal problems with regard to emergency situations, Prime Minister Hashimoto clearly stated: "We will not change the government's interpretation of the Constitution in terms of not exercising the collective defense right" and "We have no intention of expanding 'the Far East' area described in the security pact to the Asia-Pacific region." As for the U.S.-desired expansion of Japan's role in ensuring security and of Japan-U.S. military reciprocity, the prime minister has indicated its stand of maintaining the current legal framework and policies. Nobody can tell to what extent Japan's share of the role in ensuring security would be expanded under the current framework. But there is a possibility that Japan's realistic approach in expanding its role would run counter to the U.S. Government's expectations and result in disappointment for Washington; and it can be said that it would lead to more Japan-U.S. friction.

Japan: Editorial Urges Transfer of U.S. Bases Away From Okinawa

OW0205143296 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO
in Japanese 2 May 96 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed editorial: "Transferring Military Facilities Within Okinawa Does Not Solve Base Problems"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It seems that great progress has been made on Okinawa's base issues. However, it only appears so. In Okinawa, things have come to a serious pass because the solution to Okinawa's base issue proposed by the Japanese and U.S. Governments places emphasis on transferring military facilities to other bases on Okinawa rather than removing them from the Island.

Following the recent Japan-U.S. summit meeting, the government has endeavored to create an atmosphere in which the prefectural office and local municipalities will think that the solution to the base-related problems depends upon them. It is a matter of course for the Okinawan people to make serious efforts for the solution of the base issues. However, the government has urged Okinawa to work to solve the base problems after it disclosed a plan to relocate U.S. bases within Okinawa. The demand is hardly acceptable.

The return of most U.S. bases, including Marine Corps Air Station [MCAS] Futenma, has been agreed upon on condition that they be relocated within Okinawa. During a 30 April meeting, the Central District Municipalities Association, which is comprised of 13 municipalities in the central district of Okinawa, unanimously adopted a resolution "protesting the transfer of base functions within Okinawa, and urging the relocation of functions to mainland Japan and U.S. territories within the Asia-Pacific region." It is natural for them to adopt such a resolution because most of their land is occupied by the U.S. Forces.

Just before the summit, it was reported that the Japanese and U.S. Governments decided to return MCAS Futenma within five to seven years. Many Okinawans could not quite believe this good news but welcomed it. However, they soon found that the two governments had attached conditions to the return, such as "part of MCAS Futenma functions should be relocated to Kadena Air Base [KAB]," and "a heliport should be constructed on KAB for MCAS Futenma helicopter units." The Okinawan people have expressed doubts and concern about these conditions.

It was recently revealed that the U.S. Forces have not demanded a new heliport, but rather, a base with a runway for MCAS Futenma helicopter units. Strong opposition has been voiced in response to this request by

Kadena town, which hosts KAB, and Yomitan and Onna villages. In brief, in return for the removal of MCAS Futenma, the U.S. military has asked Japan to construct a new base within the Kadena Munitions Storage Area for the transfer of MCAS Futenma functions.

Okinawa is urged to make all-out efforts to resolve the base problems. However, we cannot comply with the request for constructing a new airfield about the same size of MCAS Futenma in return for the removal of MCAS Futenma.

Immediately after the disclosure of the Japan-U.S. accord on the complete return of MCAS Futenma, Governor Masahide Ota said: "With this as a first step, we have to solve base problems one by one. We have no alternative." In the future, the prefectural office and concerned municipalities may confront each other over base issues, and the gap may widen. However, such confrontation and confusion must be avoided by all means.

What should be noted is that Okinawa's base issues are a national problem, thus the state is responsible for solving it. Meanwhile, the prefectural office and municipalities should consider what is the best solution for Okinawa and work to solve the base problems.

Tokyo Considering Proposing Aid Targets at Lyons Summit

OW0305082896 Tokyo *NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN* in Japanese 1 May 96 Morning Edition p 5

[FBIS Translated Text] The government will propose at a (Lyons) summit of industrialized nations in June that goals for economic and social development be set to extend effective support to developing nations. It seeks to give priority to achieving those goals by providing funds preferentially. The government also aims to review subjects of assistance and appropriations for organs all the more, because the shortage of assistance funds provided by industrialized nations has become clear.

Targets will be set by developing countries, and industrialized nations will preferentially provide financial aid to help them achieve those goals. Japan is considering proposing the following numerical targets: 1) reducing the number of poor people whose annual income is \$370 or less; 2) providing primary education to all children; 3) reducing the infant mortality rate; and 4) reducing the mortality rate of expectant mothers. As quality goals, it will propose protecting human rights and improving legislation systems.

According to the OECD [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development] Development Assis-

tance Committee, the total amount of financial aid provided by 21 member nations was \$59.1 billion in 1994, falling below 1992's all-time high of \$60.8 billion for the second consecutive year. This indicates that industrialized countries are "weary of providing assistance." The government believes that in such a situation, certain targets need to be established to provide effective assistance to developing countries.

At the same time, the government will propose reforming international organizations. However, if priority is given to cutting expenses, developing countries' understanding may not be obtained. Therefore, Japan will propose that the portion of funds saved by budget reform should be appropriated for programs for developing nations. After reaching an accord at the Lyons summit, the government will seek developing nations' approval at the UN General Assembly in autumn.

Japan: Ministry Eyes Bailout Scheme for Failed Regional Banks

OW0305103496 Tokyo *KYODO* in English 0834 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, May 3 *KYODO* — The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan (BOJ) have sketched out a new bailout scheme for regional banks swamped by bad loans, after the example of a technique frequently used by the U.S. Resolution Trust Corp. (RTC), BOJ sources said Friday [3 May].

The new scheme is based on the purchase and assumption (P and A) technique of the U.S. federal agency that used it to clean up the savings and loans crisis of the 1980s in six years from 1989, the sources said.

The scheme calls for the governmental Deposit Insurance Corp. (DIC) to purchase the bad loans of failed regional banks, while selling the banks' healthy assets such as performing loans and handing over their deposits to other healthy financial institutions, they said.

The banking authorities may arrange for a new bank to be established to have it purchase healthy assets and take over deposits from failed regional and second-tier regional banks after the DIC's acquisition of their bad loans, they said.

A senior BOJ official said, "this scheme would make it easier for us to find a financial institution that would agree to take over" the healthy loans and deposits, as the DIC would be charged with absorbing all bad loans.

"It would help the disposal (of a failed regional bank) proceed smoothly," the official said.

Although the banking authorities had earlier decided to use deposit insurance premiums to be collected by the

DIC from all financial institutions as well as public funds to bail out credit unions, there have not been any proposals concerning how to deal with the expected collapse of regional and second-tier regional banks.

This alarming situation has prompted some experts to demand the formulation of a bailout scheme to shield the nation's banking system from such regional bank collapses, following the failure of two of them — Hyogo Bank on Aug. 30 and Taiheiyo Bank on March 29.

Under the Japanese version of the P and A formula, the DIC would also provide funds to make up the gap between the amount of deposits at a failed regional bank and its healthy assets such as loans and capital — which might be smaller than the sum of deposits.

The DIC would resell the bad loans it had purchased from failed regional banks to a government-backed factoring vehicle to be created by transforming Tokyo Kyodou Bank, the existing factoring vehicle set up last year to take over the operations of two failed Tokyo-based credit unions.

When Taiheiyo Bank collapsed in late March, four major commercial banks — Sakura, Tokai, Sanwa and Fuji — offered to jointly set up a new bank to take over the assets and liabilities of the second-tier regional bank in Tokyo due to their previous business ties with the troubled bank.

However, banking authorities fear that — unlike in the case of Taiheiyo — no financial institutions will volunteer to come to the rescue of the great majority of their small or mid-size siblings whose balance-sheet problems could speedily push them to the brink of bankruptcy, informed sources said.

Under the P and A scheme, the DIC would raise the funds needed to purchase bad loans of failed regional banks and to make up the gap between deposits and healthy assets by dipping into a pool of deposit insurance premiums whose rate is to be raised over the next five years, the BOJ sources said.

In case the banking authorities still fail to find a financial institution willing to take over the deposits and healthy assets of a failed regional bank, the DIC would be empowered to seek a court order under the corporate rehabilitation law to protect its assets from creditors and try to revive the failed bank, they said.

The DIC would be obligated to pay off all depositors regardless of the size of their deposits, including those with deposits exceeding the existing 10 million yen threshold, even before the exact amounts of the failed bank's credits and liabilities are determined by the authorities for purposes of its disposal.

Japan: Kubo Urges Banks To 'Shoulder More' of 'Jusen' Costs

OW0205025796 Tokyo KYODO in English
0203 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO — Finance Minister Wataru Kubo urged banks Thursday [2 May] to shoulder more of the cost of cleaning up the bad loan mess at "jusen" mortgage companies, saying they are profitable enough to bear such a burden.

"The banks that founded the jusen companies currently have enough profits to consider additional burdens," Kubo said at a news conference.

Kubo said he wants to enter into negotiations with the banks on the specific additional costs they can bear once the fiscal 1996 budget is approved in the diet.

Under a government-brokered plan, seven jusen companies, which are saddled with huge bad loans, will be liquidated with the help of 685 billion yen in taxpayers' money.

The fiscal 1996 budget, which includes the 685 billion yen, is expected to be approved by the Diet as early as next week.

The plan calls for the jusen founder banks to abandon all their loans to the mortgage companies.

Amid strong public criticism of the use of tax money, however, the government is seeking to offset the jusen spending by drawing more money from the founder banks.

Kubo said the government has yet to decide on specific measures to have the founder banks make greater contributions to resolving the problem.

A reported idea of raising the ratio of mandatory required loan-loss reserves or doubling the size of a planned private-sector fund for disposal of jusen bad loans is only one option, he said.

Kubo, meanwhile, strongly criticized the head of the Tokyo-based realtor Togensha, Kichinosuke Sasaki, who testified under oath at the Diet on Wednesday on the housing loan fiasco.

"It is a serious problem that (Sasaki) is not aware of his responsibility for his inability to repay huge loans," Kubo said.

Togensha is one of the biggest jusen customers that have failed to repay loans from the mortgage loan companies.

In the Diet testimony, Sasaki said it will be forever impossible to repay loans unless land prices increase.

and attributed the plummet in land prices to the Finance Ministry's curbs on lending to the real estate sector.

Japan: Article Views Call for Dissolving Finance Ministry, Bank Law

OW0305102496 Tokyo EKONOMISUTO in Japanese 7-14 May 96 p 14

[Unattributed article: "The Question of the Finance Ministry's Dissolution and the Question of Amending the Bank of Japan Law are Likely To Vanish Like Mist"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The fever for the "Finance Ministry's dissolution," which, for a time, had captivated Nagata-cho and the media, is rapidly abating. The question of the Finance Ministry's dissolution and the "amendment of the Bank of Japan Law," which has suddenly come to the surface, seem to be contrary to each other.

Originally the "question of the Finance Ministry's dissolution" was triggered by the ruling coalition's attempt to make the Finance Ministry a scapegoat for avoiding the public's sharp criticism against the use of tax money for the liquidation of the housing loan companies [jusen]. It has been said that the Finance Ministry, being afraid of "dissolution," quietly worked on the ruling parties and brought the question of amending the Bank of Japan Law to the surface out of "convenience." The Finance Ministry wants itself to be excused from being dissolved in compensation for guaranteeing a certain degree of legal independence to the Bank of Japan through the amendment of the Bank of Japan Law.

However, with the passage of the draft FY96 budget by the House of Representatives, which increases the certainty that the budget bills will become law and includes the jusen liquidation scheme, the "Finance Ministry's dissolution," a mixed motive that has been advocated by the ruling parties, has rapidly begun to lose momentum. Tadashi Ogawa, Finance Ministry administrative vice minister, may have anticipated this trend, for he has begun to reiterate: "There is nothing wrong with the existing Bank of Japan Law." His calculation may be that if the Finance Ministry is safe, it is against its interests to amend the current law and to purposely weaken its control over the Bank of Japan. "Great cry and little wool" is the most likely case.

Japan: Marubeni Forms Microchip Plant Maintenance Firm in PRC

OW0305062296 Tokyo KYODO in English 0601 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO — Marubeni Corp. has set up a joint venture with a Chinese concern to provide maintenance service for semiconductor factories run by Japanese, U.S. and other foreign companies operating in China, a business daily reported Friday [3 May].

The new company, located in Shenzhen in the southern province of Guangdong, is the first of its kind established by Japanese firms, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN said.

The joint venture is owned 51 percent by a Chinese public company and the remainder by Marubeni Hytech Co., a Tokyo-based subsidiary of Marubeni, the paper said.

The new company will train Chinese engineers in Japan in servicing the equipment, it said.

In the future, the company wants to sell computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing systems in China, it said.

The semiconductor market in China is estimated at 200 billion yen. The new joint venture hopes to be generating annual sales of 20 billion yen in five years, it said.

The absence of such maintenance service has been a major irritant to Japanese chipmakers operating or planning to move production to China, such as Toshiba Corp., NEC Corp. and Matsushita Electric Industrial co., the paper said.

Japan: Survey Shows Possible Upturn for Employment

OW2804053296 Tokyo KYODO in English 0523 GMT 28 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, April 28 KYODO — The employment situation in Japan has begun to show signs of an improvement after being in the doldrums for years, according to the initial results of a KYODO News survey of major Japanese corporations.

The results released Sunday [28 April] showed that electrical machinery makers, retailers and brokerages in particular are planning to increase recruitment next spring.

Banks, construction companies, real estate developers and electric power utilities remain cautious about increasing their workforces, as they are still weighed down

by the hangover from huge bad loans left by the collapse of the asset-inflated "bubble" economy of the late 1980s.

But major businesses in other industrial sectors seem to have bottomed out concerning employment, thanks in part to the moderate economic recovery.

Also considered a main factor behind growing moves to increase jobs is the fact that corporate restructuring, spurred by the economic downturn and a strong yen, has now run its course.

This year, a number of businesses have put together employment plans earlier than in the last few years, when such plans were worked out in late May, according to a major securities house.

Most active in expanding employment are the electrical machinery and information-related sectors, backed by strong sales worldwide of personal computers and the ensuing brisk demand for computer hardware and software.

Fujitsu Ltd. is set to hire 600 workers fresh from school next spring in a move to bolster its strategic divisions, such as the Internet-related section. The figure represents a 50 percent rise from this spring.

IBM Japan Ltd. plans to double the number of university graduates it hires next spring to 400-500, while Sony Corp. is to boost the hiring of such graduates to 300-400 from this spring's 280.

Meitec Corp., a Nagoya-based company which dispatches software engineers to electronics companies, plans to employ 3,500 workers next year, largely engineers fresh out of university.

Meanwhile, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. with a workforce of 190,000, plans to hire about 3,000 next spring, roughly unchanged from this spring, in a bid to promote multimedia-based business areas.

Among retailers, Ito-Yokado Co., Uny Co. and other major supermarket operators will expand jobs in anticipation of an easing of regulations on the opening of new stores by large-scale retailers.

Matsuzakaya Co., a Nagoya-based department store operator, has revealed a plan to more than double its recruitment next spring.

Brokerage houses, hard hit by the stock market slump, have also begun to show signs of coming back, with some second-tier houses such as Wako, Kokusai and Universal Securities companies moving to increase employment next spring.

Of the "big four," Daiwa and Nikko Securities Companies appear likely to increase their workforce, albeit slightly.

In the automotive sector, industry leader Toyota Motor Corp. plans to employ 1,500 workers next spring. The figure marks a 50 percent jump from this spring and the first substantial rise in six years.

By contrast, the banking, construction and real estate sectors remain prudent, with Shimizu Corp., a big contractor, planning to slash recruitment sharply next spring.

Japan: Labor Minister Says Steps Needed To Cut Unemployment

*OW0205034896 Tokyo KYODO in English
0232 GMT 2 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO — The government needs to take steps to reduce the number of jobless people, Labor Minister Takanobu Nagai said Thursday [2 May].

"Although companies are offering more jobs, measures are nonetheless necessary to reduce the still high number of unemployed people," the minister told reporters after a cabinet meeting.

The jobless rate dropped 0.2 percentage point to a seasonally adjusted 3.1 percent in March, according to statistics released Tuesday. This was the second consecutive monthly drop in unemployment, after three months at a record high 3.4 percent.

However, the number of people without jobs in the month rose 100,000 from the year before to 2.29 million.

Nagai said the ministry will sponsor job meetings for people who have graduated from college but have not yet found positions. There is a need to close the gap between those offering and seeking jobs, he said, noting that "there are companies which have not yet found enough people."

North Korea

DPRK: U.S., ROK Denounced for 'Reinforcing Armed Forces'

*SK0305034796 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0340 GMT 3 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — The United States and the South Korean puppets are reportedly reinforcing armed forces in South Korea, rendering the situation of the Korean peninsula extremely strained.

The U.S. has decided to deploy reconnaissance planes with latest electronic equipment in the U.S. forces present in South Korea from June 30.

This was made public by a U.S. brigadier general of the Intelligence Electronic Equipment Unit in New Jersey State.

Meanwhile, the South Korean puppets asked the U.S. to sell sea-based missiles.

In this connection, the U.S. Defense Department informed the Congress of what they asked.

The puppet clique are also planning to purchase 46 missiles to be installed in destroyers and submarines.

The facts show that the U.S. bellicose quarters and the traitorous Kim Yong-sam clique are persistently rushing headlong toward the road of war against the northern half of Korea, despite the unanimous protest of the Korean people and the world's peaceloving people.

DPRK: ROK Purchase of 986 Billion Dollars of U.S. Arms Denounced

*SK0305061196 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
1300 GMT 1 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] According to a report from a South Korean paper, the puppet clique purchased \$986 million worth of arms from the United States over the period last year ending in September. Thus, South Korea has become the world's fifth largest importer of U.S. arms.

DPRK Commentary Decries 'Anti-Warship' Exercise of ROK Air Force

*SK0305054896 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
1222 GMT 2 May 96*

[Commentary by Kim Ho-sam: "What Will Be Brought to Warmongers Are Only Corpses and Death"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The South Korean puppet Air Force mobilized many medium-sized transport planes, including four combat wings, in the sky above the West Sea [Yellow Sea], thus holding an anti-warship offensive exercise [taeham komggyok hullyon] to oppose us.

The puppets are currently propagandizing that this exercise is to prepare for a provocative situation of so-called localized warfare. This is a very dangerous military move. The anti-warship exercise [taeham hullyon] which the puppets are holding at this time is to seriously get on our nerves [urirul simhi chagukhaso] and drive the situation toward the brink of war. By so doing, this is an intentional and planned military scheme and a

military provocation to ignite the fire of war by finding fault with something.

As the entire world has recently observed, the situation has become suddenly aggravated along the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] on the Korean peninsula. Thus, the danger of an outbreak of a new war is all the more great. This is wholly due to the South Korean puppets and the U.S. bellicose class.

Currently, not satisfied with turning the MDL and the DMZ into a fully armed region and a new offensive starting camp, the South Korean puppets have even crawled up to a point only 100m from the demarcation line, and are building an offensive camp aimed at us.

As everyone knows, the Military Armistice Commission, which is a supervisory organization of the Korean armistice, has currently been completely paralyzed. This cannot be restored or revived again. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission has also been ruptured. Strictly speaking, under this kind of situation the DMZ on the Korean peninsula does not exist.

To fill the security gap on the Korean peninsula under such a situation, we recently proposed the conclusion of a tentative agreement, and are currently making sincere efforts to achieve it. Nevertheless, after this proposal was made, just like a thief who calls another a thief, the puppets said we were violating and scrapping the Armistice Agreement, and all the more held extreme military provocations and war exercises against us to an intensity we have not seen before. The anti-warship offensive exercise was carried out in this connection.

Currently, in league with the U.S. imperialists, the Kim Yong-sam warmongers are rapidly expanding step by step the provocative maneuver of a new war opposing us. Along with the U.S. forces command stationed in South Korea, the South Korean warmongers led the situation toward an extreme in accordance with the already planned operational timetable, then stirred up the hornets' nest. They are now trying to blame us for it, and are maneuvering to escape from their responsibility.

It is needless to say that the anti-warship offensive exercise held in the skies above the West Sea was committed in accordance with such a wicked scheme. This can be perceived from the fact that as soon as the puppets finished this exercise, they babbled that their outstanding ability was manifested in fulfilling their duties.

While holding the exercise, the South Korean warmongers said it is to prepare for the situation of a provocation of someone's localized warfare. This is preposterous. Who indeed is the provoker? Those who are committing military provocations every day, opposing us in

the MDL and the DMZ, are the ones saying to us that we are the provokers, and so on. This is truly scheming propaganda, like a thief calling another a thief.

All facts show that if rascals like the Kim Yong-sam ring, which are crazy for a war to invade the North, are kept within the nation, the entire nation will not escape calamity.

The root of evil must be uprooted as soon as possible. We do not want war, but we are by no means afraid of war. There is a limit to our tolerance. If the Kim Yong-sam ring continues to move along the road of war, we cannot but take countermeasures. What will be brought to the Kim Yong-sam ring at that time will only be merciless punishment. It will be good for the Kim Yong-sam ring to correctly look at the situation and not run amok recklessly.

DPRK Daily Warns Against Expecting Benefits From 'Imperialists'

SK0305084596 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0815 GMT 3 May 96

["World People Warned Not To Be Deceived by Imperialists" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — Independence- advocating nations and peoples should neither be deceived by the imperialists' hypocrisy and camouflage tactics nor harbour any illusions about them and pin any expectation on them, says NODONG SINMUN today.

They have been employing every possible form of tactics to veil their true colors and fool the people for their dominationist purpose, the daily says in an article, adding:

They are, first of all, casting themselves as "defenders of stability and peace." Their call for "detering disputes" and "preserving peace" is only aimed at camouflaging their policy of aggression, interference and war.

Since the end of the Cold War, the imperialists have pursued the policy of establishing regional spheres of their influence. For this purpose, they have resorted to two ways.

One of them is to deteriorate regional crisis and disputes by every conceivable means and launch legitimate aggression and interference under the pretext of "detering disputes", thus establishing the sphere of their influence. Another one is to ensure stability as fully as possible in regions vital to their basic economic interests and where they exercise political and military influence. Such moves of theirs have been illustrated by

their military interference in the Balkan region and their diplomatic efforts for "stability" in the Middle East.

The imperialists are also styling themselves "champions of human rights" and "defenders of democracy."

"Democracy" and "human rights" are means of aggression and interference by the imperialists. After the termination of the Cold War, they have put political, economic and diplomatic pressure on and openly perpetrated military invasion and interference in other nations, particularly those nations out of their favor under the pretext of "democracy" and "human rights."

The imperialists are also claiming to be "philanthropists" and "humanitarians". Their "assistance" and "cooperation" are all hypocrisy. They have no intention to help others but only care for their own interest and seek ulterior purposes.

They are claiming that they help developing nations very much. But they give an atom of "help" to developing nations and benefit themselves so much. Their "assistance" and "cooperation" are all means for plunder and subordination.

The imperialists are not "defenders of peace and human rights" and "humanitarians" but wreckers of peace, chief violators of human rights and rascals. If one harbours illusions about them and expects "benefit" from them, one will ruin oneself. This is proved eloquently by the situation of former socialist countries.

DPRK Delegate Speaks at IPU General Meeting

SK0305063696 *Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean*
0100 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Yi Mong-ho, secretary of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and head of a delegation of the parliamentary union of our country, delivered a speech at the 95th plenary session of the International Parliamentary Union [IPU] held in Istanbul, Turkey.

Saying that our country is successfully building the popular masses-centered socialism even under the very difficult circumstances, he pointed out: With the adoption and the announcement of the DPRK-U.S. basic agreement for resolving the nuclear issue, progress has been made in the improvement of DPRK- U.S. relations. However, the United States has still continued its hostile policy against our Republic, and strengthened economic sanctions and military threats against us.

This year, the United States and the South Korean authorities have entered the phase of earnestly implement-

ing their plan of northward invasion, which has been prepared for a long time.

At the beginning of this year, surprise attack exercises and naval joint exercises were conducted one after another on the land and sea, and in the sky throughout South Korea. From late March to early April, the Hoguk-96 military exercise was conducted in which large military forces from the South Korean Army, Navy, and Air Force participated.

Along with this, the U.S. military circles staged a U.S.-South Korean joint military exercise by mobilizing some 1,000 planes, including up-to-date B-1 and B-52 strategic bombers, thereby creating a dangerous situation which can be seen only on the eve of war.

Looking at the single fact that these military exercises increased by 1.3 times in their scale over the last year and 1.5 times over the previous years, we can clearly figure out what these military exercises mean.

Above all, what we cannot overlook is that the South has changed the area of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] and the DMZ into an armed zone for northward invasion and secured it as a new launching site for attack.

The South Korean authorities have introduced various types of heavy weapons into the whole area south of this zone and built military facilities. In addition to this, they have gone so far as to build military positions in the area only 100 meters away from the MDL.

Under this dramatic situation in which war preparations have been accelerated in the South, it was only too fair and just that our armed forces, which are responsible for the security of the fatherland and the people, exercised their self-defense rights to prevent the outbreak of a war in advance and to defend peace and security.

As an effort to turn the armistice on the Korean peninsula into a durable peace, our Republic Government put forward a proposal for establishing a new peace-guaranteeing mechanism to fill up the dangerous state of vacuum in terms of security and to maintain peace even under the breached armistice system and officially clarified its intention to observe the Armistice Agreement until the mechanism is established.

The problem is to establish the new peace-guaranteeing mechanism as soon as possible between the DPRK and the United States—the parties concerned of the Armistice Agreement—in place of the present armistice system which has been crumbled.

As part of such efforts, we have recently put forward a most reasonable proposal to sign a tentative agreement in place of the Armistice Agreement in order to prevent

an accidental armed conflict in the DMZ until the new peace mechanism is established.

Under the present situation, this is a most reasonable, basic proposal to guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula. No proposal other than this can be of substantial help [silchejogin toumdo chulsu opta] for settling the question of the Korean peninsula.

The responsibility for having scrapped the Korean Armistice Agreement rests on the United States and South Korean authorities, who have systematically infringed upon the Armistice Agreement and armistice supervisory organizations.

Since two thirds of the contents of the Armistice Agreement have been destroyed by the United States and the South Korean authorities over the past 40-odd years—namely, the failure to hold a political conference of higher levels from both sides right after the Armistice Agreement was signed, as stipulated in Paragraph 60; the introduction of military equipment and operational material; and the forced expulsion of neutral nations inspection teams—the Armistice Agreement has in fact become a mere scrap of paper.

While misleading public opinion to believe that we had destroyed the Armistice Agreement, the South Korean authorities and the rightist conservative forces of the United States went so far as to bring this to the UN Security Council. This is indeed preposterous.

There is no change in our Republic's position to settle the question of national reunification by peaceful means. Our proposal for national reunification by a confederal system based on one nation and one country, two systems and two governments under the principle of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity is widely known to the world.

Early this year, political parties and organizations in our country initiated this year as the year of peace and great national unity to open a new phase for peaceful reunification.

Who should assume responsibility for aggravating North-South relations? It is none other than the present South Korean authorities who have totally blocked and frozen North-South dialogue, which was held even in the era of the previous military dictatorship; who begged outside forces for sanctions and a mutual cooperation system in a bid to do fellow countrymen harm in collusion with them, laying the blame on our nonexistent nuclear issue; who are now increasing the arms buildup and constantly aggravating tensions through war exercises; and who intensified confrontation by aiming rifles at fellow countrymen when they suffered a mishap.

If they really want to improve North-South relations through dialogue, they should first show their practical will, such as abrogating the National Security Law, which has defined us as the enemy; remove the concrete barriers; and suspend reckless military commotions.

If they continue to engage in empty talk without (?making an apology), it cannot but be interpreted as their intention to continuously lead North-South relations to the direction of confrontation and split.

Despite the prevailing tense situation on the Korean peninsula, our country enjoys political stability, and our people are firmly united in one mind around the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il, and are achieving great success in socialist economic construction.

All things are properly carried out in our country today. This is a result of the tested leadership of the supreme leader [choego yongdoja] of our Republic, and clearly shows the vitality of our own style of socialism.

Our Republic invariably supports the struggle of the people of all countries for independence, peace, and friendship.

Our Parliamentary Union will further develop friendly and cooperative relations with the parliaments of different countries of the world.

DPRK's New Peace Proposal Reportedly Supported Abroad

*SK0205134696 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0856 GMT 2 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 2 (KCNA) — Political parties and organizations of different countries made public statements hailing the April 12 statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman.

The party of Communists of Angola, the social Communist Party of Angola and the Democratic and Progressive United Party of Angola, in a joint statement, expressed full support to the self-defensive measure recently taken by the DPRK, saying it is a fair and square step of the independent and sovereign state to prevent a war and ensure peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

The statement held that the South Korean authorities can never escape from the responsibility for having brought the situation of the Korean peninsula on the eve of war and should discontinue all military exercises and immediately stop all maneuverings aggravating the situation in the Demilitarized Zone of the Military Demarcation Line.

The United Nations should take a practical and effective measure so that the United States, a signatory to the

Armistice Agreement, may respond to the reasonable and realistic proposal of the DPRK for concluding a tentative agreement to establish a new peace-keeping mechanism on the Korean peninsula, to the effect that it admits and atones for its past wrongdoings, it said.

The Nigeria-DPRK Friendship Association and other organizations of Nigeria in a joint statement strongly demanded that the United States take hands off South Korea, honestly come out to dialogue for Korea's reunification, pay due attention to the DPRK's proposal for concluding a tentative agreement between the DPRK and the U.S. to remove the military confrontation and tensions from the Korean peninsula and turn the armistice into a durable peace, and make sincere efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The Brazil-DPRK parliamentary group said in a statement:

Having seen at the first hand the tensions on the Korean peninsula, we consider it necessary to conclude a peace agreement for Korea's reunification, the desire of all the Korean people in the North and the South.

DPRK Daily Warns ROK Against Interfering With DPRK-Japan Talks

*SK0305082396 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0809 GMT 3 May 96*

[“Unreasonable Intervention” — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — The traitor Kim Yong-sam, when he met with a delegation of the Japanese ruling parties some time ago, poked his nose into the issue of resuming the DPRK-Japan talks, begging Japan to “pay sufficient concern to its relations and cooperation with South Korea.”

Commenting on this, a news analyst of MINJU CHO-SON today says:

The jargon of the puppets about the issue of the resumption of the DPRK-Japan talks is an obtrusive and impudent intervention.

The DPRK-Japan talks is aimed at liquidating the unlucky past between the two nations and normalising state relations between them. Accordingly, parties concerned are the DPRK and Japan.

Parties responsible for the inter-Korean dialogue are the North and the South of Korea, and its purpose is to attain the national reconciliation and unity and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. If the Kim Yong-sam group want inter-Korean dialogue, therefore, they must not entreat outside forces to help them with the dialogue but must above all apologize to

the nation for their criminal act of obstructing national reconciliation and unity and the reunification of the country. Refusing to do what they must implement, however, the puppets implore the outside forces to give a helping hand to the internal issue of the nation. This is one more crime of selling out the sovereignty of the nation.

The dastardly deed of the puppets shows that they still have the bad habit of meddling in other's affairs.

Their impatience only reveals their isolation at home and abroad and their ruling crisis.

The Kim Yong-sam group must not impudently poke their nose into other's affairs. If they continue gnawing at others, they will pay for it dearly.

DPRK Paper on Japan's 'Anti-Ethical Criminal Act'

SK0305044096 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0429 GMT 3 May 96

["Japan Cannot Evade Responsibility for Crime Against 'Comfort Women for Army'" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — The Japanese authorities tried to evade the responsibility for the "comfort women for the army" issue, prattling that the report on Japan's "wartime sex slavery system" by a special rapporteur was only taken "notice" by a resolution of the 52nd meeting of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands the issue of the "comfort women for the army" as an anti-ethical crime committed by the Japanese state.

The news analyst goes on:

The Japanese imperialist forced more than 200,000 women into serving the Japanese Army as sex slaves. This was the very grave ultra large criminal case aimed at obliterating nations. The report of the United Nations, which called Japan to task for the criminal case and urged its just settlement, reflected the justice of the international community and conscience of humankind; it does not speak for any individual, organisation and state. The Japanese authorities, however, are mixing good and evil and converting black and white, claiming that the criminal case is "not violation of international law" and "was settled by law". This is an insult and challenge to the international community and conscience of humankind.

The issue of the "comfort women for the army" is not a matter that can be glossed over by a mere assertion. And it is not a matter that can be solved by money and by putting a few people to silence.

With no moves can Japan evade the responsibility by the international law for the anti-ethical criminal act.

The Japanese authorities should honestly tackle down to the settlement of the issue of the "comfort women for the army", though belatedly, mindful that their reckless and rash act is giving rise to an awkward remark calling despicable Japanese.

DPRK: Japanese Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang 2 May

SK0205112396 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1058 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 2 (KCNA) — A delegation of the secretariat of the Society for the Study of the Chuche Idea of Japanese teachers led by its Director Masagazu Yokobori [name as received] arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Kim Yong-su, vice-chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

DPRK: Japanese Delegation Visits Kim Il-song Statue on Mansu Hill

SK0305034996 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0341 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — A delegation of the Secretariat of the Society for the Study of the Chuche Idea of Japanese Teachers led by its director Masagazu Yokobori visited the statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill on Thursday.

The delegation laid bouquets and made a bow before the statue.

DPRK: Secretary Kim Yong-sun Meets Japanese Guests

SK0305093096 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0923 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Kim Yong-sun met separately with the visiting group for Japan-Korea Friendship led by Chairman of the Board of Directors of Daisho University Shuzo Oda, who is also chairman of the Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association, and the delegation of the Nagano Prefectural, Japan, Assemblymen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea friendship led by its Chairman Tsugio Miyazawa at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

Kim Yong-sun conversed with them in a friendly atmosphere.

**DPRK: Japanese Government Urged To Admit
'Comfort Women' Crimes**

*SK0305081196 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0804 GMT 3 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — Representatives of the All-China Women's Federation, the International Francisco Organization, the International Association Against Torture, the International League of Women for Peace and Freedom and other nongovernmental organizations urged the Japanese Government to admit its legal responsibility and make state compensation for the crimes related to the "comfort women for the army" during the discussion of the agenda item "violence against women" at the 52nd meeting of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights.

They condemned Japan's opposition to a report on "wartime sex slavery system" made by a special rapporteur and rejected the "Asia peace fund for women".

And they strongly demanded that the Japanese Government admit the historical fact that women were reduced to sex slaves, open to the public all materials, and take practical measures for the settlement of the "comfort women for the army" issue.

**DPRK: ROK Decried for Importing Foreign
Agricultural Goods**

*SK0305053296 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean
2200 GMT 1 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A South Korean paper has reported, citing a data unveiled by the puppet Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, that the puppet clique imported \$5.13 billion worth of agricultural goods during the period between January and November of last year, up 26.6 percent over the same period of the previous year. In particular, corn imports increased by 84.3 percent.

Kneeling down to the pressure of the United States, the puppet clique has opened up its agricultural market and imported foreign agricultural goods more and more. In doing so, it has driven the nation's agriculture to destruction.

**DPRK: ROK Denounced for 'Suppression' of
Students, Dissidents**

*SK0305045396 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0433 GMT 3 May 96*

["NODONG SINMUN Condemns S. Korean Puppets' Suppression" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — The Kim Yong-sam group recently convened a

meeting of public peace section chiefs of the puppet district police bureaus and ordered the police throughout South Korea to intensify the suppression of students and dissidents.

Commenting on the fact, NODONG SINMUN today says:

The Kim Yong-sam group, in a bid to justify their suppression, have called for "strictly dealing with" progressive student organizations and the dissident camp, describing them as "leftist forces" linked with the North.

That is another intolerable challenge to and fascist outrage against the South Korean students and people, who want independence, democracy and reunification.

The repressive order only indicates that they are a group of traitors who do not hope for independence and democracy of South Korean society and the reunification of the country.

In the puppet National Assembly elections held in April many of the South Korean people voted against the "New Korea Party," the traitor Kim Yong-sam's private party, passing a death sentence on it in political terms. They will never pardon the traitor, who has defended the murderers of Kwangju people and involved in the slush fund scandal unprecedented in history. With the approach of the 16th anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising, the South Korean people have been lifting up voices against the "civilian dictatorship" and the opposition parties are likely to further intensify their offensive against the "ruling party".

Kim Yong-sam's repressive order is just his last-ditch effort to get out of the catastrophic crisis and part of the fascist moves to prop up his tottering regime.

**DPRK-Nigeria Joint Company Inaugural
Ceremony Held 24 Apr**

*- SK0305104096 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean
0100 GMT 3 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] An inaugural ceremony of the DPRK-Nigeria Jamsong Machine Company, Ltd. was held in Enugu State, Nigeria on 24 April. Respectfully placed in the forefront of the ceremony site were the portraits of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song; the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il; and Sani Abacha, head of state of Nigeria.

Hoisted in the ceremony site were the national flags of the DPRK and Nigeria, and placed there was the slogan, "Long live, friendship and solidarity between the DPRK and Nigeria."

The ceremony was attended from the Nigerian side by (Mike Chory), minister of the Enugu State who represented the Federal Republic of Nigeria; the general director of the Ministry of Industries, who represented the minister of the Ministry of Industrial; figures from the political and social circles of Nigeria; Nigerian businessmen and artists; and people of all strata, totalling some 6,000 people. The ceremony was also attended by our country's ambassador to Nigeria, our technicians, and an economic delegation of our government.

Speeches were made at the ceremony, which began with the playing of the national anthems of our country and Nigeria and with firing a gun salute.

In his speech, noting that His Excellency Kim Chong-il, the great leader [yongdoja] of the Korean people — who is deeply interested in the development of economic cooperation between Nigeria and the DPRK — is unselfishly [sasim opsi] assisting the Nigerian people's struggle for economic self-reliance, the minister of Enugu State stressed that the inauguration of this company is a clear example of it.

He pointed out that the successes that the Korean people have achieved in economic and cultural construction under the wise leadership of the great leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il are a great (?model) for developing countries. He stated that Nigeria will realize joint venture and collaboration [habyong hapchak] with the DPRK in various fields.

In conclusion, he stated that he wishes a new success in the Korean people's work for economic construction and for national reunification under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

At the inaugural ceremony, a letter to the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted amid the enthusiastic applause of the participants.

Following this, the minister of Enugu State and head of our government's economic delegation cut the tape to declare the inauguration of the company.

The participants toured the company's production line and then saw artists' performances.

DPRK: Nigerian Community Leader Sends Gift to Kim Chong-il

SK0305035996 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0337 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from J.O. Mama, king of the Umozzi Community in Enugu State, Nigeria, director general of the Korea-

Nigeria Jamsong Machine Co., Ltd. and chief of the Sun Society of Nigeria.

J.O. Mama handed the gift to the head of the DPRK Government economic delegation present at the inaugural ceremony of the Korea- Nigeria Jamsong Machine Co., Ltd. on April 24.

DPRK: Foreign Party Leaders Send Telegrams to Kim Chong-il

SK0305040396 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0336 GMT 3 May 96

[All names of foreign party leaders as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received telegrams from foreign party leaders on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

They came from Rene Leon Mauge Mosquera, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ecuador, Gustavo Mohme Ryona, national secretary general of the Socialist Political Action Party of Peru, Guzman Rivera Castaneda, general secretary of the Socialist Revolutionary Party of Peru, Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, chairman of the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students of Peru, Eleazar Guterra Maravi, chairman of the Peruvian Nationalist Movement of Labour, Marcos Domich, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Bolivian Communist Party, and Claudio Campos, secretary general of the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil.

Noting that the birthday of President Kim Il-song is a historical commemoration day of humankind of the world, they said that President Kim Il-song, the greatest revolutionary of contemporary humankind and leader of people, who greatly contributed to the cause of world's socialism with his theory and practice, will be alive in the hearts of all the progressive people of the world.

They expressed the belief that the Workers' Party and people of Korea will achieve greater success in the efforts for the socialist construction and reunification of the country under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

DPRK: Foreign Party, State Leaders on Friendly Ties With DPRK

SK0305091296 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0819 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, May 3 (KCNA) — Party and state leaders of different countries declared, when they met Korean ambassadors, that they would

further develop the friendly relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister and chairman of the Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia Party] Party of Cambodia, said it is the line of the king of Cambodia and the invariable position of the government of the Kingdom to recognize the DPRK only on the Korean peninsula.

Hun Sen, second prime minister of Cambodia, said the royal government of Cambodia would pay deep attention to the development of the relations with the DPRK and make positive efforts for the strengthening and development of the relations.

Boualem Benhamouda [name as received] secretary general of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Algerian National Liberation Front, said they would further strengthen and develop the historical relations of friendship with the Workers' Party of Korea.

Yusuf Faysal, general secretary of the C.C., the Communist Party of Syria, said it is the international duty of his party to express support and solidarity with the Korean people's struggle.

Narayan Man Bijukchhe, chairman of the C.C., the Nepal Worker-peasant Party, said it is a noble international duty of his party to support the struggle of the Workers' Party and people of Korea advancing under the banner of socialism.

Our party's relations with the Workers' Party of Korea will continue to strengthen and develop, he added.

DPRK: Envoy Pays Farewell Call on Cambodia's First Prime Minister

*SK0305020496 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
1300 GMT 30 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] On 25 April, our country's Ambassador Song Ho-kyong paid a farewell call on Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and chairman of the FUNCINPEC Party.

During the meeting, the ambassador conveyed greetings from the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il to First Prime Minister Norodom Ranariddh. The first prime minister expressed deep gratitude for this and asked the ambassador to convey his heartfelt greetings to his excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il, the supreme leader [choego yongdoja] of the party, state, and army of the DPRK.

The first prime minister said: Recognizing only the DPRK on the Korean peninsula is the line of the king and a firm stance of the government of the kingdom. The government of the kingdom actively supports the most just formula for the reunification of the fatherland as set forth by his excellency Generalissimo Kim Il-song, the great leader. The government of the kingdom firmly believes the DPRK people will overcome all difficulties, and will unfailingly achieve victory in their cause since the leadership of his excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il, the great leader [widaehan suryong], is wise and the policies pursued by the Workers Party of Korea are correct.

DPRK: Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam Arrives in Libya on 30 Apr

*SK0305010796 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
1300 GMT 2 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] On 30 April, Kim Yong-nam, our country's vice premier and foreign minister, and his entourage arrived in Tripoli, Libya.

Welcoming them at the airport were the secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, functionaries concerned, and our country's ambassador to the country.

DPRK Daily Specifies Tasks for Developing Exports

SK0305042896 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 15 Mar 96 p 3

[Article by Kim Chong-man, director of the Export/Import Guidance Bureau within the Committee of External Economic Affairs: "Realistic Requirements for Strengthening Export Goods Production Bases"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Presently, functionaries and working people of all sectors of the people's economy are vigorously struggling to implement the party's foreign trade-first policy.

We need to put efforts into strengthening export goods production bases in order to be highly successful in this rewarding struggle to make our country richer and stronger and to further improve the people's standard of living.

The great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated the following: We should properly organize export goods production plants to epochally increase their export volume. By strengthening export goods production bases, we will process raw material to sell as processed goods, not just as raw material.

Strengthening export goods production bases is a precondition to implementing the party's foreign trade-first policy.

Organizing export goods production bases is the first step to producing goods to be exported, and modern equipment and facilities are necessary for export goods production. If export goods production bases are not firmly organized, we cannot be successful in producing export goods, no matter how high the production workers's zeal and how abundant the resources may be.

Export goods production bases should be properly organized based on modern technology. Only then can the production of export goods be drastically increased and the quality of goods improved according to the party's intent. Thus, our party is putting efforts into the struggle to strengthen export goods production bases by considering this an important requirement of its foreign trade-first policy.

Today, we have sufficient conditions and capabilities to establish export goods production bases in compliance with the demand of the developing reality.

Functionaries and working people of all sectors of the people's economy should vigorously carry out the work to establish export goods production bases with the firm conviction that there is nothing they cannot accomplish as long as they have the wise leadership of the party, a powerful self-reliant national economy, and the achievements and experience they have gained in their struggle waged to establish export goods production bases in the past.

Priority work in properly establishing export goods production bases is to reinforce and modernize the existing export goods production bases.

By upholding the wise leadership of our party, and by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, our people have established numerous export goods production bases everywhere across the country.

Reinforcement is necessary and new production processes should be installed so that these bases, which are the shining creations of our self-reliance, will further display their capabilities. In this connection, we should place priority effort into the large plants and enterprises of the metal, building material, and mining industries, which hold important places in foreign trade. The prominent export goods production bases on which the foreign trade of the country heavily depends should be reinforced, and new production processes should be installed at these bases. Only then will it be possible to mass produce those export goods that are greatly demanded outside of the country and further develop foreign trade.

Functionaries and working people of the export goods production plants and enterprises of the metal, building material, and mining industries should deeply realize the significance of their missions in implementing the foreign trade-first policy of the party. By doing so, they should vigorously struggle to effectively make use of the existing production capacities.

The Kim Chaek Iron Complex, the Songjin Steel Complex, and other plants and enterprises of the metal industry should reinforce and further modernize the existing production processes as well as properly install new production processes. By doing so, they should increase the production of metal products of second- and third-stage processing. Concurrently, the Tanchon Magnesia Clinker Complex and the Sunchon Cement Complex should add more modern technology to their production processes so as to upgrade the cement and magnesia clinker qualities to world levels.

The Komdok Mining Complex, the Tanchon Smeltery, and other plants and enterprises responsible for non-ferrous metal production should equip their production processes with modern technology and firmly organize the production bases of various processed products so as to decisively increase the production of lead and zinc products as well as a variety of products.

Reinforcing and modernizing export goods production bases is a task that should be accomplished not just at major plants and enterprises, but also at all other plants and enterprises of all sectors of the people's economy.

All plants, enterprises, and units of all sectors of the people's economy should drastically increase the production of export goods by setting the concrete goals of struggle to reinforce and modernize their export goods production processes and to establish new production processes.

Export goods production bases should be established based on the realistic conditions and capabilities of each individual area and unit.

Presently, export goods production bases are being established everywhere across the country. The purpose of this is to increase the production of export goods by completely mobilizing and utilizing all kinds of resources.

Resources of export goods are everywhere, and we have adequate conditions and possibilities to dig them out and increase the production of export goods. If we make decisions and turn out to organize export goods production bases, we can mass produce decent export goods just by using things obtainable from mountains and by using farm products, marine resources, mineral resources, and byproducts of plants and enterprises.

Plants, enterprises, and all other units of the relevant sectors of the people's economy should work out correct export goods production plans based on the research of resources and should establish production bases according to their individual situation so as to fulfill established plans. By so doing, they should make certain that the production of export goods is stabilized at a high level under all circumstances.

It is important to establish export goods production bases in a forward-looking manner.

Establishing export goods production bases is a rewarding and responsible task for the endless prosperity of the fatherland as well as for the happiness of our posterity.

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who possesses outstanding wisdom and far-reaching insight, foreseeing the future of the fatherland, has put forth a magnificent forward-looking plan for establishing export goods production bases, and has wisely led the struggle to implement the plan. By doing so, he has established reliable export goods production bases everywhere across the nation.

Ceaseless upsurges are being effected in production at the May 24 Export Fisheries Station, the Pyongbuk Smeltery, and many other plants and enterprises which are displaying their mighty capabilities more and more each passing day under the wise leadership of the party. This shows how important it is to establish export goods production bases in a forward-looking manner.

The experiences of the past show that we can more effectively utilize the resources of the country and can display their vitality only by establishing export goods production bases in a forward-looking manner according to the intent of the party, which calls for us to live not for today but for tomorrow, even if we establish just one export goods production base.

All functionaries and working people should deeply realize that the export goods production bases presently being established are permanent monumental structures to be handed over to posterity. In building those bases, they should make meticulous calculations on raw materials, fuel resources, power supply, and transportation. They should equip these bases with modern technologies and make sure that these bases, which require huge investments, will continue to display their might generation after generation.

Today's reality, in which we vigorously struggle to establish export goods production bases, demands that our functionaries competently conduct a battle command with the spirit of the arduous march.

Presently, many plants and enterprises of the people's economy are vigorously struggling to establish export goods production bases with their own efforts. Some adversities and obstacles come about in the struggle. How to overcome these adversities and obstacles totally depends on our functionaries.

Loyalty to the party and a spirit of dedication to the fatherland and people, which are both possessed by functionaries responsible for the production of export goods, should be displayed in the practical struggle to fulfill the intent of the party. Only those functionaries who make the utmost efforts to establish export goods production bases by overcoming all adversities and obstacles with the spirit of the arduous march are true loyalists to the party.

Just as the commanders of the anti-Japanese guerrillas did during the arduous march, functionaries of plants, enterprises, and all other units from various sectors of the people's economy should take the lead among the ranks of battle and achieve breakthroughs while advancing.

With a firm stand of self-reliance to resolve everything with one's own strength, even if the higher echelons do not supply the necessities, although it would be better if the higher echelons did supply them, all functionaries should successfully establish export goods production bases by mobilizing the creativity of the masses and by completely digging out all hidden recourses.

Functionaries and working people of all sectors of the people's economy should know that it is not just a job-related assignment, but is also a rewarding task, to fulfill the intent of the party; it is also a sacred task to make our fatherland richer and stronger to reliably establish export goods production bases. By realizing this, they should successfully implement the party's foreign trade-first policy by devoting themselves to the struggle to reliably establish export goods production bases.

South Korea

ROK Dailies View Prospects for U.S.-DPRK Talks on MIA Issue

SK0305103096

[FBIS Report] The following is a compilation of articles published in ROK vernacular dailies on 3 May on the prospects for U.S.-North Korea negotiations on the repatriation of the remains of U.S. soldiers missing in action (MIA) to be resumed in New York on 4 May.

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries on page 2 a 700-word article entitled "The Significance and Prospects for MIA Talks" by reporter Chang Yon-chae. The article notes: "In light of a series of recent successful contacts between North Korea and the United States, it is expected that the sides will reach a specific agreement

on the MIA issue during the forthcoming round of negotiations." It also notes that the New York meeting is more important than the previous Berlin talks on the missile issue for the United States which "has started the presidential election race," because the repatriation of the remains of U.S. soldiers may be considered "an election asset by showing the humanitarian aspect of the MIA talks." The article mentions that the United States hopes to conclude forming a U.S.- North Korea joint MIA search team prior to negotiations on compensation for the repatriation of the remains, and that the sides reached a "verbal agreement" on this in January. It then cites experts viewing that "the sides, however, will have difficulties in reaching an agreement on specific issues such as the scope of the U.S. team's searching activities in North Korea." In this regard, the article anticipates North Korea may "intensively demand U.S. measures in return for concluding an agreement on these issues." The article notes "even if the MIA negotiations end with good results, it will be difficult for the United States to take large- scale measures as desired by North Korea." It continues by saying "This is because the United States has expressed its position that it will make a package deal on lifting additional sanctions on North Korea in accordance with the development of the overall situation surrounding pending issues, such as the missile talks and the negotiations on establishing liaison offices." The article concludes by saying that the reported U.S. consideration of providing food aid to North Korea in return for the repatriation of the remains of U.S. soldiers "will result in a compromise proposal that narrows the differences of the U.S. and North Korean positions."

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN carries on page 4 a 700-word article entitled "The Prospects for the Second Round of MIA Talks To Begin in New York Tomorrow" by reporter Yi To-yeon. The article notes diplomatic sources' "optimistic view" on the formation of a joint team for searching the remains of U.S. soldiers, saying they believe North Korea "will have to show a sincere attitude toward this issue in order to induce the United States to lift additional economic sanctions on North Korea and provide it with economic assistance." The article also notes the United States "is actively considering" compensation for North Korea's repatriation of the remains "by paying for the cost of searching the remains, not by giving compensation." The article concludes by pointing out that both North Korea and the United States wish the MIA negotiations will conclude this time, noting that "with the upcoming presidential election, the Clinton administration is being pressured by the American Legion" and that North Korea is aware that "the U.S. lifting of additional economic sanctions on North Korea presupposes the conclusion of MIA negotiations."

ROK: DPRK Government To Ask for Food Aid During MIA Talks

SK0305023196 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
3 May 96 p 1

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Yi Sang-u]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned on 2 May that North Korea has asked the United States to provide food aid in return for Pyongyang's active cooperation in repatriating the remains of U.S. soldiers missing in action [MIA] during the Korean war, and that the United States is carefully considering the North Korean proposal.

Diplomatic sources in Washington said on 2 May that North Korea will likely put forward this proposal during the forthcoming negotiations on the MIA issue to be held in New York beginning on 4 May, and that Kim Chong-u, vice chairman of the External Economic Affairs Commission of North Korea who is currently visiting Washington, has already conveyed the North Korean idea to the U.S. Government and Congress.

A source stated: "Vice Chairman Kim Chong-u met with leading members of the U.S. Congress, such as Congressman Bill Richardson and Senator Paul Simon, who are close to President Clinton, and asked for the cooperation of the U.S. Congress in providing food aid to North Korea." According to the source, Congressman Richardson stressed North Korea's active cooperation in repatriating the remains of U.S. soldiers would greatly contribute to creating an atmosphere within the Congress for providing food aid.

Through talks with Thomas Hubbard, U.S. assistant deputy secretary of state, Yi Chong-hyok, vice director of the Workers Party of North Korea, who arrived in Washington on 30 April, also conveyed North Korea's willingness to cooperate in repatriating the remains.

Another source said that in view of these moves, it is highly likely North Korea will accept the U.S. demand to form a U.S.-North Korea joint team to search for the remains of U.S. soldiers prior to the negotiations on compensation.

ROK: DPRK Official Requests Rice Assistance During Meeting

SK0305063896 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 3 May 96 p 1

[Report by correspondent Pak In-kyu from Washington]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was learned that Yi Chong-hyok, vice chairman of the North Korean Asia-Pacific Peace Committee who is currently in Washington, took

part in a meeting held behind closed doors on the afternoon of 1 May (local time), which was hosted by the Carnegie Peace Foundation, a private research institute. During the meeting he repeatedly emphasized North Korea's desperate situation.

An expert on Korean peninsula affairs who also took part in the meeting conveyed that Vice Chairman Yi said: "May and June will be the climax for North Korea's food situation. Giving minor help now is more important than massive help later."

This expert noted that important U.S. administration officials directly involved in policy-making for the Korean peninsula—including some from the State Department, Department of Defense, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Defense Intelligence Agency—took part in this meeting.

The State Department revealed that in the morning prior to the meeting, Vice Chairman Yi met Thomas Hubbard, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, at the U.S. peace institute, the two sufficiently exchanging views on issues of common interest between the two countries.

During a regular briefing today, Glyn Davies, deputy spokesman for the State Department revealed: "During the meeting, Deputy Assistant Secretary Hubbard urged North Korea to positively accept our four-way peace talks, and North Korea requested food assistance and the lifting of economic sanctions." On 2 May, after meeting four U.S. senators, including Democratic Senator Diane Feinstein, Vice Chairman Yi and his entourage departed New York.

ROK: U.S. Said To Map Out 'Measures' on Relaxing DPRK Sanctions

SK0305004596 (Internet) *The Chungang Ilbo* WWW in English 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It was reported Thursday that the United States has drawn up a 25-point plan on relaxing economic sanctions towards North Korea. The new measures will allow US companies to invest in North Korea through third countries as well as Pyongyang's financial transactions with US banks. The revised plan could go into effect as early as sometime this month.

Other measures include the elimination of the ceiling on daily expenditures by Americans traveling in North Korea (200 dollars) and permitting American freight ships to enter North Korean harbors.

Up until now, the United States has classified North Korea and Cuba as members of the 'Z' Group, which is subject to the most stringent export controls, but Wash-

ington is reportedly considering a new classification for North Korea as a member of the 'Y' Group. This classification had been applied to the member nations of the now defunct Warsaw Pact.

ROK Editorial Decries DPRK 'Demand' for Concluding Peace Treaty

SK0205011296 *Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English* 2 May 96 p 6

[Editorial: "NK View of US Troops"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There is no denying that North Korea's aim with its demand for the conclusion of a peace treaty with the United States has been to get U.S. forces withdrawn from South Korea. But now Pyongyang has come up with a novel proposal that deviates somewhat from its conventional policy on the presence of American troops here.

Yi Chong-hyok, a central committee vice chairman of North Korea's ruling Workers Party, stated in a seminar in the U.S. that Pyongyang would not object to U.S. forces acting as peacekeepers separating the armies of South and North Korea. At first glance, Kim's overture seems to represent a change in the North's steadfast opposition to the American troops stationed here.

However, the conditions attached to the continued presence of U.S. troops raise doubts about the North's true intentions. As a result, we are tempted to conclude that Kim's statement is another example of the bait-and-switch tactics that the North has followed in bargaining with Washington in the past.

As is known, the North has been gearing up its drive to impress the U.S. and other Western democracies, making it appear that it is ready to cooperate or coexist with the West. At the same time, Pyongyang has attempted to show that its "chuche" or self-reliance policy is about accommodating capitalist economic thought, and provides a basis for building new relationships with the U.S. and its allies.

Now, the North Korean official says while Pyongyang would accommodate the American forces as peacekeepers in Korea, it cannot accept the present role that U.S. troops play in Korea. But, peacekeeping is exactly what they have been doing in Korea, deterring war for more than four decades.

Also unreasonable are the other conditions, namely, an end to U.S. military exercises with South Korea and Japan, a halt to comments by the commanders of U.S. forces and other American officers about the Korean situation and a discontinuation of the introduction of weapons of an offensive nature into the South.

As Kim is an influential foreign affairs specialist in the North, his opinions are believed to carry some weight. Nonetheless, this particular position has yet to be confirmed by any official Pyongyang mouthpiece and hence are subject to refutation by other authorities as was often seen in the dictatorial system. Accordingly, his statement and his aims must continue to be probed for the time being.

Pyongyang's ongoing attempts to improve relations with Washington, yet desperately shutting out Seoul's participation in policy decisions about inter-Korean affairs have been intolerable. A close watch is now in order to confirm the North's real intentions with this latest move. There is no reason for Seoul and its allies to jump at more Northern bait.

ROK: Head of DPRK Foreign Ministry U.S. Bureau Profiled

SK0305001096 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean
2 May 96 p 22

[Article by Kim Sung-hyon: "Yi Hyong-chol, Director General of the American Affairs Bureau of the North Korean Foreign Ministry"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yi Hyong-chol, (51), director general of the American Affairs Bureau of the North Korean Foreign Ministry, appeared in the North Korea-U.S. missile negotiations, which were held immediately after the ROK-U.S. summit proposed the four-way talks. Since then, he began to play a leading role in accelerating DPRK-U.S. negotiations. It was learned that following Kim Chong-u, chairman of North Korea's Committee for the Promotion of External Economic Cooperation; and Yi Chong-hyok, vice chairman of a department in the Workers Party, who have recently been active making contacts with the U.S. side, Yi Hyong-chol will attend a seminar in the United States in May on the Korean peninsula issues, and will engage in an appeasement offensive toward the United States.

Although his present title is director general of the American Affairs Bureau at the Foreign Ministry under the Administration Council, Yi Hyong-chol often visited the nations with which North Korea has no diplomatic relations, including the United States, under the title of chief of a research division in North Korea's Disarmament and Peace Research Institute.

Yi is a graduate from the English Department of the Pyongyang College of Foreign Languages — the educational body that grooms North Korean diplomats. He is known to have a fluent command of English and to be an expert in disarmament issues in North Korea, as well as in diplomacy with the United States. He visited Japan in August 1990 in the capacity of chief of the

disarmament and peace research division. Since then, Yi frequently showed up in contacts with the U.S. side.

When Kang Sok-chu, North Korea's first vice foreign minister, visited the United States in September 1991 to attend the UN General Assembly, Yi Hyong-chol accompanied Kang, and when the first round of high-level DPRK-U.S. talks were held in January 1992 between Kim Yong-sun, then director of the International Affairs Department in the Workers Party; and [Arnold] Kantor, U.S. under secretary of state for political affairs, Yi attended the talks as a member of the North Korean delegation.

He also attended a seminar held in the United States in April 1993. He showed up in the semi high-level DPRK-U.S. talks held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in May 1995, together with Ho Chong, senior North Korean delegate.

It has been learned that Yi also exercises control from a distance of the North Korean mission to the United Nations. Thus, he is evaluated by the United States as being a practical power-holder in North Korea's foreign diplomacy.

Although Yi is officially affiliated with the Administration Council, he is often considered as a figure in the party side because of the deep trust Kim Chong-il has on him.

ROK: Different DPRK Policies Within Government Offices Noted

SK0205123196 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean
2 May 96 p 3

[Report by Kim Sung-hyon: "Differences in Adjusting Policies Toward North Korea"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Different currents have emerged within the government offices over the issue of creating an atmosphere favorable for persuading North Korea into the framework of the four-way talks.

Each government office may naturally voice a different view on a certain issue from its own strategic standpoint. However, considerable differences in the position of some relevant high-ranking government officials have been noticed recently over "the policy for inducement of North Korea."

The relevant government officials unanimously agree that the success of the four-way talks depends on North Korea's decision. Besides, most of them express the optimistic view that "North Korea will respond, although it may take some time."

However, they showed differences over whether they should wait indefinitely or should employ certain inducement means. In addition, controversy has been touched off pertaining to whether or not the issue of pushing ahead with the four-way talks should be linked to the issues between North and South Korea; and if the two issues are to be linked, to what degree.

In particular, in the event that the period in which North Korea merely states that "it is reviewing," is prolonged, differences in their positions as to how they should resolve North-South questions will also emerge.

Concerning the issue of whether or not the government should turn up in creating an atmosphere for inducing North Korea to the four-way talks, Yu Chong-ha, senior presidential secretary for foreign affairs and security, showed a very passive stance.

In informal talks with reporters on 30 April, he explicitly stated that "the government will not take any appeasement step so as to make North Korea respond to the four-way talks."

In particular, with regards to the approval of three ROK business firms for joint projects with North Korea, which was announced by the Ministry of National Unification (MNU) on 27 April, Yu said that "this step was prompted by the government's consistent policy of promoting economic exchanges and cooperation between the North and the South. Thus, the step is not an appeasement act to induce North Korea to the four-way talks, and there is no need to give particular policy-level significance to this step."

Meanwhile, however, in a special speech at the Yoido Club that afternoon, Kwon O-ki, deputy prime minister and minister of national unification, stated that "the government will make multi-sided efforts to realize the four-way talks. Thus, the measures for the expansion of economic cooperation, including the 27 April approval of enterprises undertaking economic cooperation projects with North Korea, are significant." As such, he made it clear that the approval of the business firms was linked with the four-way talks.

In connection with the step for the approval of enterprises undertaking joint projects, Kim Yong-il, director general of the Exchanges and Cooperation Bureau in the MNU, on 29 April said that "among 10-odd business firms which applied for the government's approval for their cooperation projects, the MNU is reviewing further those who meet objective conditions. Economic cooperation projects with North Korea are not to be pushed or based merely on pure economic logic." Thus, he suggested that the economic cooperation projects would be

carried out in relation to the acceptance of the four-way talks.

In connection with the issue of pushing for North-South dialogue separately from the four-way talks, Senior Presidential Secretary Yu stated that "since the government has proposed the four-way talks, it is not in the position of pushing ahead with other talks between authorities, but is hoping that North Korea will respond to the four-way talks." Thus, he declined to admit the possibility of North-South dialogue aside from the four-way talks.

Furthermore, Yu said that "if we cling to North Korea in a bid to make it respond to the four-way talks, the possibility of realizing the talks will be reduced even further. Besides, even if the four-way talks are held, problems will be complicated further." As such, he stressed that focus should be brought into the four-way talks.

Senior Secretary Yu, however, pointed out that "unlike North Korea's nuclear problem, the four-way talks have no time limit. Therefore, there is no need to achieve the talks in a short period of time, nor should we expect this to happen."

Meanwhile, in a news conference held immediately after the ROK and U.S. summits proposed the four-way talks on 16 April, Deputy Prime Minister Kwon stated that "separate talks between the authorities may possibly be held, if three conditions proposed during the rice talks last year, including the holding of the talks within the Korean peninsula; the proposal by authorities; and suspension of slander and smear against the South, are met."

ROK: DPRK Said Interested in Economic Benefits of 4-Way Talks

*SK0305100296 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
3 May 96 p 2*

[By correspondent Yi Chae-ho from Washington]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was confirmed on 1 May that North Korea, which has not yet revealed its official position regarding the proposal made by the ROK and the United States regarding the four-way talks three weeks after the proposal was made, is examining from various angles the advantages and disadvantages of the four-way talks, and in particular, is considering in detail the economic benefits it can gain from them.

On this day, a diplomatic source in Washington said that regarding the proposal for the four-way talks, North Korea has been actively questioning the purpose of the four-way talks; the possibility of its realization; the U.S.

and PRC roles in the four-way talks; and South-North relations after the realization of the talks. It also said that in particular, North Korea showed deep interest on the economic benefits it can gain from the four-way talks.

This source said: "Judging from the fact that North Korea is showing interest in economic benefits, there is a possibility that as a precondition for holding the four-way talks, North Korea may ask the United States to lift overall economic sanctions toward the North or to realize early normalization of DPRK-U.S. relations."

ROK: Weekly Discusses Prospects for Four-Way Talks

SK0305111096 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean
2 May 96 pp 38-39

[Article by Political Department reporter Ku Song-chae: "Four-Way Talks Mellowing Toward Realization—The North Shows Unusual Reaction of 'Reviewing'—Many Difficulties To Overcome Even if Realized"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The North Korean reaction to the four-way talks proposed by the presidents of the ROK and the United States is "We are reviewing it." It is very unusual for North Korea to make such an interim announcement as a reaction to a proposal before making a final decision. The responsible government officials concerned are expecting North Korea to put forth some sort of positive reaction.

In the following days since the four-way talks proposal was made on 16 April, the government has kept busy working on preparatory measures. In particular, since North Korea made the above-mentioned announcement, the government has been accelerating the preparatory work formulating schedules and procedures.

The process the government anticipates is as follows: The North Korean acceptance of four-way talks; the inter-Korean preliminary contacts and the four-way preliminary contacts on the Korean peninsula; the holding of four-way talks; the beginning of inter-Korean negotiation to discuss a peace regime; the expansion of inter-Korean human and material exchanges and the taking of step-by-step confidence-building measures; the signing of a peace agreement based on the principle of the parties concerned between the North and the South; guaranteeing and approving the peace agreement signed between the North and the South through the convocation of the four-way talks; the realization of various confidence-building measures stipulated in the peace agreement.

If North Korea accepts the four-way talks, preliminary contacts will be necessary to materialize the talks. The preliminary contacts will discuss the agenda, venue,

and the level and scope of the participants. The form of the preliminary contacts is the first problem to be encountered. Since they are four-way talks, the preliminary contacts will naturally include the four parties, namely, the ROK, the United States, North Korea, and China. However, the government is of the opinion that separate contacts between the North and the South may be necessary.

The level of the preliminary contacts is also an item of interest. The government is considering that a vice ministerial-level may be appropriate. Kwon O-ki, deputy prime minister and unification minister, and Foreign Minister Kong No-myong made a remark to this effect on 16 April when the proposal was made. If a vice ministerial-level official is to attend the preliminary contact, the South's delegate to the four-way preliminary contacts will probably be from the Foreign Ministry, because the contacts are in nature an international meeting. We can anticipate a case where the delegate is from the Ministry of National Unification [MNU]. However, the convincing view in the government is that the idea of the MNU delegate should be reserved for the inter-Korean talks. Those who hold this view maintain that the officials from various ministries and departments can compose the delegation to the preliminary contacts.

The venue for the preliminary contacts is also a matter that should be coordinated among the four parties. It is highly likely that the venue for the preliminary contacts will be a neutral place to ease the international focus of attention on the preliminary contacts. In other words, the four countries can hold the preliminary contacts behind closed doors to place fuller weight on the four-way talks, and therefore, they may decide on the venue for the preliminary contacts other than the four countries concerned. The possible venue would be Geneva, Berlin, or Moscow in Europe and Kuala Lumpur or Jakarta in Asia where North Korea has its mission, although, of course, the preliminary contacts could be held in the United States, China, or on the Korean peninsula.

The agenda to be discussed at the preliminary talks is likely to be broadly termed as "matters related to peace on the Korean peninsula," and full-fledged negotiation for the agenda will probably be referred to the four-way talks, for if the preliminary talks are to regulate everything concerned with the four-way talks, it will leave little room for the four-way talks to exercise its "political influence."

The four-way talks would be held according to the procedure decided at the preliminary talks. The four-way talks are expected to take place in July or thereafter. The

government anticipates that North Korea will respond soon. A government official concerned said, "North Korea will probably announce its final position not later than early May." The government's view is that if North Korea positively responds to the proposal, the preliminary contacts would be realized and completed within two months of the North's positive response.

Since 8 July is the second anniversary of Kim Il-song's death, North Korea may well want to conclude the preliminary contacts before that, for North Korea may wish to use the four-way talks for the political event of the second anniversary of Kim Il-song's death. The four-way talks would be an opportunity to predict Kim Chong-il's succession to power.

The best venue for the four-way talks is Panmunjom, according to the government officials concerned, for it is a symbolic place for discussing peace on the Korean peninsula. However, we do not know whether North Korea will agree to it or not, for North Korea has constantly tried to incapacitate the armistice regime that Panmunjom symbolizes.

North Korea may propose Pyongyang as an alternative. North Korea has maintained a position of opposing internationalizing the issue on the Korean peninsula. North Korea takes the four-way talks to be an international card leaving insufficient leeway for North Korea because it is proposed with the initiative of the ROK. To block the international focus of attention as best as possible, North Korea may want to invite the ROK, the United States, and China to North Korea instead of going abroad. North Korea chose Pyongyang for the first venue for the summit talks. The next place for the venue is New York, for North Korea can publicize its claim on direct negotiation with the United States by doing so. Beijing is another prospective venue.

The delegates to the four-way talks will be minister-level. With the same aforementioned logic for the preliminary talks, the government will perhaps appoint Foreign Minister Kong No-myong as an ROK delegate. North Korea will perhaps choose Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam or Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the North Korean Workers' Party in charge of South Korean affairs. The U.S. delegate will probably be Secretary of State Christopher and the Chinese delegate Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. Foreign Minister Kong was our delegate to the Joint Nuclear Control Committee in 1992 to deal with his North Korean counterpart.

The key issue of the four-party meeting is how to handle the broad spectrum of the agenda in such a way as to promote peace on the Korean peninsula. Experts believe that the United States and the PRC should remain in an auxiliary position to support and endorse what is agreed

between North and South Korea. If not, North Korea would have its way in signing a peace agreement or a tentative agreement with the United States.

Experts believe that the most reasonable way is to first confirm this principle at the four-party talks, then hold a meeting between North and South Korea, at which time the two sides could discuss achieving reconciliation and cooperation, trust-building, and operating various joint committees pertinent to the basic agreement between the North and South. In the long term, this could lead to discussion on the contents of the peace agreement to replace the Armistice Agreement.

At the latter North-South talks, the attendees would be different from those of the four-party talks. North-South dialogue experts would attend the negotiation with North Korea. Through the process, an agreement on a new peace mechanism could be reached. The new peace mechanism may then be supported by the United States and the PRC. In a formula, the four-party meeting of the ROK, the United States, North Korea, and the PRC would be followed by the North-South talks, and then, back to the four-party talks. The North-South summit talks may be considered some time during the two-party talks or right after the four-party talks.

Of course, we do not know whether North Korea will agree to the process. Experts believe that even if North Korea agreed to the four-party talks, it would take a long time before North and South Korea start full-scale North-South dialogue.

ROK: DPRK Hinder Measurement of Spent Nuclear Fuel Rods

SK0305004896 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2300 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The clarification of North Korea's past nuclear development is in fact impossible seeing as North Korea refused to allow measurements of the plutonium in 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods being preserved in special containers as of 27 April. Vienna-based correspondent Cha Man-sun has more:

[Begin Cha recording] David Kyd, spokesman for the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], disclosed today that the work to store 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods in special containers began on 27 April and is currently proceeding without a hitch. However, he pointed out that the measurement of plutonium in the spent nuclear fuel rods, which is essential in clarifying North Korea's past nuclear development, has yet to be made due to North Korean objections.

The spokesman disclosed that four inspectors, including an expert on radioactivity, are participating in the

work to store the spent nuclear fuel rods in special containers, and that they are only checking whether the spent nuclear fuel rods have been burnt. He assessed that, although it is late, it is extremely fortunate to have started the work to store the spent nuclear rods. However, he played down the likelihood of being able to measure the plutonium in a few years.

The IAEA speculated that the storing process will last until June of next year and intends to push ahead with the measurement of the plutonium through technical negotiations with North Korea during the storing process.

In the meantime, nuclear experts point out that the storing process generally takes two or three months. However, in North Korea's case, it takes too much time due to special circumstances in North Korea where there are many restrictions. They evaluated that because of this, the clarification of North Korea's past nuclear development is in fact impossible. This has been Cha Man-sun reporting from Vienna. [end recording]

ROK: IAEA Says DPRK Refuses Measurement of Spent Fuel Rods

SK0305004896 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network
in Korean 2300 GMT 2 May 96

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ROK Dailies View Significance of Sealing DPRK's Spent Fuel Rods

SK0305063096

[FBIS Report] The following is a compilation of articles published in ROK vernacular dailies on 3 May regarding the sealing of the spent nuclear fuel rods in North Korea, which began on 1 May.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 3 a 1,100-word article entitled "The Work of Sealing the Spent Nuclear Fuel Rods Begins" by Washington-based correspondent Kim Chang-kyun. The article says the sealing of the spent nuclear fuel rods means "the installment of another safety device against the possibility of North Korea's nuclear weapons development." The article expects the sealed spent fuel rods will be transferred overseas in six or seven years, possibly to the United States seeing as the PRC, Russia, and other countries have reacted "negatively" to the U.S. tapping on their willingness to accept them. The article adds: "The removal of North Korea's nuclear threat is one diplomatic result the Clinton administration is proud of." It notes North Korea's willingness to seal the spent fuel rods "can be interpreted as evidence that proves North Korea is sincerely implementing the Geneva agreement," and stresses if the United States wants to give a "carrot" to North Korea, it may use the sealing of the spent fuel rods "as grounds for its estimation of the merits."

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 5 a 800-word article entitled "The Significance of Sealing the Spent Fuel Rods" by reporter Yi Sung-chol. The article stresses that "the sealing of the spent fuel rods means the removal of misgivings about North Korea's 'future nuclear development,'" adding the reminder that "North Korea used to mention the possible reprocessing of the spent fuel rods whenever its relations with the United States faced obstacles." As regards North Korea's refusal to allow sample-taking from the spent fuel rods, the article notes: "The International Atomic Energy Agency feels it has become impossible to clarify North Korea's past nuclear activities, while the United States feels advanced technology will make

it possible." It emphasizes that in any case, the question of North Korea's past nuclear activities will remain as a "potential threat" to the ROK until 2003 when the spent fuel rods "will be transferred" overseas. Pointing to remarks by a White House spokesman that "the crisis has ended," the article stresses: "This means the issue concerning North Korea's future nuclear activities, a matter of U.S. concern, has entered a phase of resolution, but does not indicate that the issue of North Korea's past nuclear activities, which the ROK must shoulder, will also be resolved." The article concludes by adding: "This shows a fundamental difference between the ROK and U.S. positions on the North Korean nuclear issue."

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN carries on page 2 a 1,000-word article entitled "The Significance and Procedures of Sealing the Spent Nuclear Fuel Rods in North Korea" by Washington-based correspondent Kim Chae-yong. The article begins by saying the sealing of the spent fuel rods serves as "an important momentum for the successful implementation of the U.S.-North Korea Geneva agreement," and stresses that "with this, a critical moment in the nuclear issue has passed." Explaining in detail the procedures of the sealing work, the article says the work will be completed in June.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO carries on page 2 a 500-word article by Washington-based correspondent Yi Chae-hu. The article stresses that the sealing of the spent fuel rods means "at least the visible termination of the North Korean nuclear threat," and continues: "Accordingly, the United States, which has linked the nuclear threat to the improvement of U.S.-North Korea relations, should unavoidably adjust the speed of practicing its North Korean policy." Pointing out that the sealing work "proves North Korea is relatively sincere about implementing the Geneva agreement," the article says the United States "should make proper compensation in any way." The article then notes expert views that the United States "will inevitably take pacifying measures, such as the lifting of additional economic sanctions on North Korea and the expansion of personnel exchanges with the North."

ROK Media: Libya Considering Buying Missiles

SK0305022196 Seoul YONHAP in English
0212 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, May 2 (YONHAP) — A high-ranking Libyan Government official will visit Pyongyang this month to discuss ways of importing North Korean-made missiles, sources here well versed on Libyan affairs said Thursday [2 May].

The official's scheduled trip was agreed on at a recent meeting in Tripoli between Libyan Leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi and visiting North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam when they discussed promoting bilateral cooperative relations, the sources said.

The sources predicted that the Libyan Government official will conclude a missile purchase contract with North Korea during his visit to Pyongyang that will take place within this month.

During the meeting, Kim asked al-Qadhdhafi to make an effort to block South Korea's move to join the Nonaligned Movement, but is not known if the Libyan leader gave a definite answer, according to the sources.

ROK: Kim Chong-il's Former Consort Hopes To Stay in U.S.

SK0205123896 Seoul YONHAP in English
1221 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP) — Song Hye-rim, Kim Chong-il's one-time live-in woman, who has escaped North Korea, does not want to come to South Korea for the time being and hopes to resettle in the United States instead, her nephew living in Seoul said recently.

Appearing in a KBS-2TV program which will be aired on Sunday (May 5) night, Yi Han-yong said he believes his aunt and his mother, Song Hye-rang, are presently staying in the United States.

Speaking about himself, Yi said he came to South Korea 14 years ago in "half-abduction and half-defection."

He said he first called at the South Korean Embassy in Switzerland in the hope of finding a way to fly to the United States.

"At the embassy, an Agency for National Security Planning official told me to come to South Korea instead where he said language and foods are no strange to me," Yi said.

He said he accepted the offer on the condition that his coming to the South won't be publicized.

Yi, whose real name is Yi Il-nam, also said he underwent a plastic surgery in 1985 for fear of terrorism by North Korean agents.

"In frustration over the surgery and the fact that I have to live in a false name, I took 50 sleeping pills in an abortive suicide attempt," he said.

Yi said that in early years he worked at a KBS housing association before he quit it in 1990 for his own business

which, he said, went bankrupt before long, leading to his imprisonment.

"I was too ignorant of things here. The main reason for the bankruptcy was my improper management of employees," Yi said.

ROK: Japanese Cigarette Sales Down Due to Anti-Japan Sentiment

SK0205015196 Seoul YONHAP in English
0123 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP) — Sales of Japanese-made cigarettes in South Korea declined this year, reflecting a growing anti-Japanese sentiment here following Japan's claim to South Korea's easternmost islets of Tokto last year.

The sales of Japanese cigarettes including "Mild Seven Lights" fell from about 64.2 million packs in the first quarter of last year to about 49.9 million packs in the same period of 1996, the Finance and Economy Ministry said Thursday.

The decreased popularity of Japanese cigarettes may have been brought about by a civic organization boycott of Japanese-made products launched last year after Japan laid claim to Tokto, an official said.

Between January and March this year 1.34 billion packs of cigarettes were sold, up 29.7 percent from the same period in 1995, and foreign-made cigarettes accounted for 13.1 percent or 175 million packs, up from 11.7 percent a year ago.

Japan's "Mild Seven Lights", which accounted for 5.7 percent of domestic cigarette sales last year, however, had a 3.6-percent market share for the first quarter of this year.

The Japanese brand accounted for 27.9 percent of foreign cigarette sales in the January-March period this year, down from 46.1 percent for all of last year.

The second most popular foreign brand, U.S.-made "Virginia Slims," which claimed 18.7 percent of the foreign cigarette sales last year, increased its share to 25.8 percent in the first three months of this year thanks to the decrease in the popularity of the Japanese cigarettes.

U.S. cigarette sales soared to claim 65.4 percent of the foreign cigarette market in Korea for the first quarter, up from last year's 49 percent, while Japanese cigarette sales nosedived from 47.3 percent to 28.6 percent during the same period.

ROK To Import Japan-Manufactured Cars for First Time in Jun

SK0305002696 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 May 96 p 8

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Japanese car with an engine capacity of 4,200-4,500cc [cubic centimeters], the Land Cruiser, will be imported next month.

Korea lifted a ban on imports of Japanese wagon-type cars with an engine capacity of more than 3,000cc Jan. 1.

Grey dealer Korea Jeep said yesterday that it will import the wagon from a local dealer in Japan, but not from its maker Toyota Motor next month on a sample basis. It will sell full scale in the latter half of this year.

This is the first time that Japanese cars manufactured in Japan are imported, although Japanese cars produced in the United States and other countries have been imported.

The vehicle to be imported by Korea Jeep is a recreational four-wheel-drive wagon, and it will sell for some 70 million won here, the importer said.

Chinse Trading, which has been named a formal sales agent for Toyota Motors, is determined to import one or two models by the Japanese maker in the latter half of the year as import restrictions are gradually eased in July.

Besides these, domestic foreign car dealers have been seeking agent contracts with Japanese makers, such as Nissan, Mitsubishi and Honda. A few dealers are also moving to bring in Japanese cars through local dealers.

ROK Considers Cohosting World Cup With Japan

SK0305111696 Seoul YONHAP in English
0631 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP) — South Korea may not stick to its bid to be the sole host of the 2002 World Cup finals if most of FIFA, soccer's world governing body, member countries hope that South Korea and Japan will co-host the world soccer festival, Prime Minister Yi Su-song said on Friday.

"It is the position of the South Korean Government and the Korean people that South Korea could accept the proposal for co-hosting the World Cup with Japan if most FIFA member countries want it, Yi said.

Answering questions of Korean newspaper editors and representatives from broadcasting companies at a breakfast meeting held at the press center, Yi made the remark after pointing out that South Korea's formal position is still to be the sole host of the World Cup.

South Korea and Japan are competing fiercely to host the first World Cup finals in the 21st century. The venue for the world's biggest soccer festival is to be decided by a vote of FIFA's 21 executive board members June 1 of this year.

"Soccer is important, but I think damaging the traditional friendly relations between South Korea and Japan is not desirable. So we should make an effort to avoid diplomatic damage to either country and play down the conflict between the two countries national sentiments," Yi said.

Meanwhile, an official at the bidding committee for the 2002 World Cup in Korea said that hosting the World Cup finals alone is still the committee's formal position.

He said, "The committee's clear position on the matter may be clarified when former Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku, honorary chairman of the bidding committee, and Rep. Chong Mong-chun, president of the Korea Football Association, return from their overseas trip."

ROK Ministry: Diplomat in Kenya 'Missing' in Seychelles

SK0305050696 Seoul YONHAP in English
0459 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP) — A diplomat at the South Korean Embassy in Kenya has been missing in Seychelles since Wednesday, Foreign Ministry spokesman So Tae-won said Friday.

Second Secretary Yi Sang-kun, 37, was last seen swimming in near a hotel in Seychelles around 5:30 PM Wednesday, the spokesman said. The official flew to Kenya from Mauritius via Seychelles, where he attended an exhibition match of the traditional Korean martial art taekwondo, according to the spokesman.

Seychelles has dispatched military helicopters and lifeboats to search for Yi amid high tide, So said.

ROK: Seoul To Crack Down on PRC's Illegal Fishing in Yellow Sea

SK0305085796 Seoul YONHAP in English
0832 GMT 3 May 96

[By Hwang Tu-hyong]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP) — South Korea informed China Friday that it is going to increase its effort to crack down on illegal fishing by Chinese boats in the Yellow Sea by invoking the United Nations convention on the law of the sea which guarantees a 200-mile exclusive economic zones [EEZ].

At a meeting of working-level officials from the two countries held at the Foreign Ministry, Seoul negotiators

stressed the need for reaching a new fishing agreement for the Yellow Sea under the U.N. convention, according to a ministry official.

South Korea also noted that the convention stipulates that member countries employ the coastal state principle in which boats involved in illegal fishing can be seized by coastal states.

China presently insists on applying the principle of flag state under which coastal states have no authority to crack down on fishing boats operating in seas off their coasts.

South Korea's position is that it will introduce the coastal state principle in a fishing agreement with China while allowing China to get access to a certain amount of fishery resources through the Total Acquisition Control (TAC) system.

During the meeting, the fifth of its kind, the two sides discussed ways to protect marine resources in the Yellow Sea, maintain orderly fishing and seek cooperation in the event of emergency situations in waters surrounding the two countries, according to the official.

Deputy Director General Yi Won-hyong of the ministry's Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau lead the South Korean delegation to the fisheries talks and his Chinese counterpart was Yang Jian, deputy head of the Fisheries Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The talks will continue through Saturday when the two sides will sign minutes discussed during the two-day meeting.

In a related move, Deputy Director General Yi will fly to Tokyo Thursday to launch a new fishing order in Northeast Asia which will be compatible with the UN convention on the law of the sea, officials said.

Yi will head a South Korean delegation to the talks which will last until Friday. The delegation will consist of officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries and the Maritime Police.

The talks will focus on a review of the survey of marine resources in the East Sea [Sea of Japan] conducted jointly by South Korea and Japan during the past year in a prelude to signing a new fishery agreement, according to officials.

Unlike China which has yet to sign a fishery agreement with South Korea, Japan has maintained an agreement with South Korea which applies flag state principle for decades.

Japan insisted on the flag state principle decades ago when its fishing boats had far better fishing technology and equipment than those from Korea, although South Korea demanded that the bilateral fishery agreement adopt the principle of coastal state principle.

The situation has changed, however, now that well-equipped South Korean fishing vessels consistently encroach on Japanese waters.

Now that the tables have turned from decades ago, Japan has recently complained that its maritime police cannot crack down on Korean boats illegally operating in Japanese waters under the flag state principle.

South Korea has refused to accept offers by Japan to revise the agreement, saying that the flag state principle was originally introduced by Japan rather than South Korea.

The dilemma for South Korea is that it wants China to accept the coastal state principle while hoping to maintain the flag state agreement with Japan.

"We are fully aware of the spirit of the UN convention on the law of the sea which guarantees the coastal state principle to allow coastal states to protect marine resources," an official said.

The official, however, added that, at least until China agrees to the introduction of the coastal state principle, South Korea will not easily succumb to pressure from Japan to accommodate the coastal state principle.

That's because the fisheries agreements to be signed with Beijing and Tokyo respectively should go hand in hand in the newly emerging fishing order in Northeast Asia, he said.

Although South Korean and Japanese officials have recently expressed their desire to keep the EEZ boundary issue and the dispute over the islets lying in the sea between Korea and Japan separate, the question of EEZ boundaries will surely be a bone of contention during the upcoming fishery talks between Seoul and Tokyo, according to officials.

South Korea recently announced that it is going to draft a bill to introduce a 200-nautical mile EEZ around its territorial waters while Japan's parliament is reviewing its government's legislation to introduce its own EEZ, prompting speculation that the two countries will have to begin negotiating EEZ boundaries sooner or later to avoid possible problems in the future.

South Korean officials also predict that China will soon follow suit and declare its own EEZ.

A major problem for Seoul officials is that Beijing has yet to declare its baseline, the starting point for its EEZ,

which will also serve as the starting point for negotiations, said the officials who predict time-consuming negotiations with China and Japan for establishing a new fishing order in Northeast Asia.

ROK: Kim Yong-sam To Direct Establishment of Information Council

SK0205000996 (Internet) The Chungang Ilbo WWW in English 2 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Kim Yong-sam stated Monday [29 April] that he plans to establish "a council exclusively in charge of collecting information." He continued, "I will personally preside over the council to check whether or not plans for information systems are being carried out as scheduled in every sector."

President Kim presided over a meeting of the advisory council for national scientific engineers for the second quarter on Wednesday morning at Chongwadae [presidential offices], and stated that "the information systems within Chongwadae should be updated and an organization exclusively in charge of information will be set up within the government as well to strengthen our overall information systems." President Kim also instructed the Minister of Information and Communication to greatly ease related regulations in order to promote private investments on information related sectors.

ROK: Kim Yong-sam Calls on Prosecution To Eradicate Bribery

SK0305052396 Seoul YONHAP in English 0503 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHA?) — President Kim Yong-sam called on the prosecution Friday to reinforce investigations into corruption cases involving civil servants in an effort to eradicate bribery.

"A climate in which public officials receive money must be done away with," the chief executive said. "Reinforce special investigations of officials suspected of corruption so that the general public may actually feel the change reforms have brought forth."

President Kim made the remarks at a Chongwadae [presidential offices] luncheon he hosted for 67 senior prosecutors across the country, responsible for special investigations, including An Kang-min, director-general, Central Investigation Bureau, Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office.

Kim instructed them to do their best to eliminate campus and organized violence, the prosecution's two major public safety tasks this year.

"To respond to public aspirations for growth amidst reform, as reflected in the recent general elections, it is most important to reinforce public safety and create a safe and comfortable social atmosphere," Kim said.

Also on hand were Justice Minister An U-man, Prosecutor General Kim Ki-su, and the Justice Ministry's Prosecution Bureau Director-General Kim Chin-se.

ROK: O In-hwan: Kim Yong-sam To Continue Reform Amid Stability

SK0305023596 Seoul YONHAP in English
0159 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, April 2 [date as received] (YONHAP) — Information Minister O In-hwan said Thursday that voters had favorably assessed President Kim Yong-sam's reform policy in the recent general elections and gave him the mandate to continue the policy while maintaining stability.

Speaking at a meeting of South Korean journalists, business leaders working in the United States and his ministry's information officers serving in the western hemisphere at the Plaza Hotel, O added Kim would therefore continue pursuing the policy, with stress on gradually improving the quality of life for the people and preparing for national reunification on the strength of a firmer national security posture, in the latter part of his term.

The president will also focus on redressing and complementing "the half-baked reforms" he conducted during the first half of his tenure, O explained.

Defining the goal of Kim's latter-half reform programs as "reform democracy," Minister O theorized that the reform democracy aims at elevating democracy as it is in the country today a step higher by rectifying the obsolete laws and institutions of the past and crossing the threshold to become an advanced country by sustaining the present pace of socio-economic development.

The landslide of Kim's ruling party in the capital area, overcoming the provincialism which prevailed in nearly all other areas, has provided him with a renewed impetus to continue his reform drive with confidence during the remainder of his term, O stressed.

The election of many reform-minded politicians to the parliament has strengthened the reformist force to make it easier for the president to continue the reform programs.

In view of the post-Cold War trends of international politics, the reform programs Kim initiated are a historical task facing the Korean people in the coming century, and can only be successful and insure the survival and

growth of our sovereign nation, if all citizens support and participate in them, O stressed.

ROK: Premier Hints at Running as Presidential Candidate in 2002

SK0305090196 Seoul YONHAP in English
0816 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP) — Prime Minister Yi Su-song said Friday that he has no intention of running in next year's presidential race, but hinted at a possible Chongwadae [presidential offices] bid in 2002.

While flatly ruling out any prospect of a presidential bid next year at a breakfast meeting with journalists, Yi, however, remarked that he may toy with the idea in the future.

"I might flirt with the idea of running for president in five or six years if I'm still healthy and not morally corrupt, and if the country is having difficulties and needs a man like me," he said at the meeting hosted by the Korean Newspaper and Broadcasting Editors Association.

"A president should lead the nation and people responsibly and be a high-caliber individual with a strong will and sense of determination."

ROK: Chon Tu-hwan Says Media Merger in 1980 Was His Idea

SK2904150596 Seoul YONHAP in English
1035 GMT 29 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, April 29 (YONHAP) — Former President Chon Tu-hwan conceded Monday afternoon the extensive merger of press media in late 1980 was his idea.

"The merger plan was worked out by the then-Information Minister Yi Kwang-pyo, but the plan was my idea," Chon said when questioned by the prosecution about the press merger at the 6th session of the trial of him and his colleagues in connection with the Dec. 12 and May 18 incidents.

The disgraced former president, however, declined to say about the role the Defense Security Command then headed by No Tae-u played in the press merger. No's command was said to have stage-managed the merger.

The prosecution also questioned Chon if he didn't apply a sort of indirect pressure to the justices of the Supreme Court so that the highest court could mete out heavy term to Kim Tae-chung then on trial on sedition charges.

To substantiate the charge, the prosecution cited the fact that Chon forced Yang Pyong-ho and four other

Supreme Court justices to resign after they offered the minority's view that a homicide charge could not be used against Kim Chae-kyu, then Korean Central Intelligence Agency director who shot dead President Pak Chong-hui.

Chon shunned to answer the question, saying he couldn't remember the action he took regarding the matter.

ROK: Prosecution Demands Chon's Consent To Search His Residence

SK0305065796 Seoul YONHAP in English
0626 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP) — The prosecution has requested former President Chon Tu-hwan through his defense lawyers that he consent to its search of his home in connection with its probe into graft charges facing him, informed sources said Friday.

Yi Yang-u, Chon's lawyer, visited Chon at Anyang Prison at around 10 AM [0100 GMT] Friday to discuss the prosecution's demand, according to an official from the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office.

Prosecutors asked Yi Wednesday to consent to their plan to search Chon's residence and seize pertinent documents, only to be rejected, according to the source.

The prosecutors searched the offices of eight private secretaries at Chon's residence twice on Wednesday and Thursday and confiscated an instant noodle carton box-full of deposit books, account ledgers and memos.

The searches were made by four investigators based on Chon aides' testimony that Chon's deposit books and other documents were kept in their offices in the residence, the source said.

"Since secretaries' offices, strictly speaking, can hardly be regarded as Chon's residence, we entered the house guided by secretaries without securing a separate warrant. Hence, the searches cannot be defined as formal ones conducted with a search and seize warrant," the official added.

The prosecutors, meanwhile, did not search sitting room and other private rooms of Chon's residence.

ROK: Prosecution Searches Secretaries' Offices at Chon's House

SK0305005196 Seoul YONHAP in English
0008 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP) — The prosecution has searched and confiscated documents from secretaries' offices at former President

Chon Tu-hwan's Yonhui-tong residence in northwestern Seoul, it was confirmed Friday.

An official from the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office, investigating a slush fund scandal involving Chon, said, "Upon consent from the defense lawyer and secretaries and at their guidance, we searched the offices at Chon's residence of Son Sam-su and seven other private secretaries Wednesday, and seized some deposit books, accounting ledgers and memos."

The search was conducted based on search and seizure warrants issued against the secretaries' homes and offices, according to the source.

The prosecutors, however, did not search the residential areas — sitting room and other private rooms — of the Chon residence.

ROK: Independent Lawmakers-Elect Joining NKP

SK0305022596 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 May 96 p 2

[Report by Political Editor Chong Un-pong]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Already six independent lawmakers-elect have streamed into the fold of the ruling New Korea Party [NKP], shoring its floor strength from 139 to 145, only five shy of a simple majority in the 299-seat National Assembly.

According to the ruling NKP, more are waiting in the wings outside with hats in hand, and making up the margin is only a matter of time.

The ruling NKP, which failed to maintain a legislative majority in the April 11 elections, has been targetting independents.

And the foray does not appear limited to independents alone, but opposition parties too, notably the United Liberal Democrats [ULD] with 50 seats led by Kim Chong-pil and the Democratic Party with 15 seats.

Many of the lawmakers-elect on the ULD's tickets do not have the tenacity required of oppositionists. In fact, many of them had sought the nominations of the ruling NKP for the April elections. As they failed, they turned to the ULD ticket for the convenience of getting elected.

Several ULD lawmakers did not show up even though they were appointed key party posts, a sign serious enough to prompt the ULD leader to suspect that they are on their way out.

This is why the ULD leader is exceptionally upset. He is growling that the NKP's action is a mean form of political operation, which he claimed had never even been attempted by the past military regimes.

The ULD is now raising an olive branch to the major opposition party, the 79-seat National Congress for New Politics [NCNP] led by Kim Tae-chung, to form a sort of alliance to stop the NKP's marauding.

In a floor leaders' meeting early this week, the two opposition parties agreed to confront the NKP jointly. In order to firm up the alliance, secretary generals of the two parties yesterday agreed that the two Kims will meet tomorrow.

However, the NCNP is not as enthusiastic as the ULD because it is less vulnerable. Unlike the ULD, the cohesiveness of the NCNP is deemed strong enough to withstand the raiding.

Besides this, NCNP leader Kim holds dear the camaraderie he forged with President Kim Yong-sam, who concurrently heads the NKP, during the dark days of struggling for democracy against past military regimes.

Soon after meeting with President Kim after the April elections, NCNP leader Kim said he was satisfied that all the misunderstandings President Kim had of him had been cleared up. "This I value very much," he added.

Against the backdrop of his plan to come to power through the presidential election in 1997, the NCNP leader can hardly go about his way without being wary of the sentiments of President Kim.

However, Kim of the NCNP cannot afford himself to look like his hands are tied. He would rather hold the line to get his message across that President Kim needs his help too.

In a meeting tomorrow, the two Kims will surely discuss what to do and how to emphasize to President Kim the point that the April elections did not give any camp a floor majority. Any forced alteration of the "people's verdict" is against political ethics, they will spotlight.

At the same time, they will discuss how to cope with what they called biased prosecution investigations of election fraud. They have been charging that the ruling camp has been blackmailing "switchables" with the investigation.

ULD leader Kim would also use the meeting as an opportunity to sound out if the NCNP leader would be amenable to his plan of introducing the parliamentary cabinet system as a form of government. NCNP leader Kim once advocated the cabinet system.

In reality, there is no way of stopping the NKP's overt raiding. President Kim made it plain in his separate meetings with the two opposition leaders that his party will recruit independents to control the Assembly. He added that not a small number of lawmakers are knocking at the door of the NKP.

The problem is whether or not the two opposition leaders will resolve to mount a fierce battle, holding the formation of the 15th National Assembly hostage.

Even if they are resolved to do so, it is another matter if it will work because fresh lawmakers, who make up more than one-third of the Assembly membership, are very anxious to enter the National Assembly.

In the current political landscape, independents will have to choose a party, ruling or opposition, to have their voices heard.

The lawmakers of the Democratic Party, which has to put up with the humiliation of seeing its floor strength cut by half to only 15 seats, five seats short of the minimum for being accorded the status of floor negotiating group, are said to be in the same shoes because the party's future as a political entity is in doubt. Its former spokesman already left the party apparently to ride the bandwagon.

In this situation, the NKP looks more attractive to independents than the opposition NCNP and ULD. The reasoning is simple because the ruling NKP is bound to be reborn with its leader President Kim having only one year and about 10 months to go at most.

There will be much "underwater dialogue" in the process of nominating the ruling camp's standard-bearer for the 1997 presidential election. For now, there is a good chance that a relatively fresh and experienced technocrat will rise above the "professional" politicians entrenched in party politics.

However, the NCNP and the ULD are still under the control of the "invincible" septuagenarian old hands, who keep their ambition for power burning in the twilight of their lives.

ROK: Kim Tae-chung, Kim Chong-pil To Discuss Steps Against NKP

SK0305003496 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 May 96 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kim Tae-chung of the National Congress for New Politics [NCNP] and Kim Chong-pil of the United Liberal Democrats [ULD] will meet tomorrow to discuss the two opposition parties' joint steps against the ruling camp.

Over lunch at the National Assembly, the two opposition leaders are expected to take up a wide range of issues including the New Korea Party's [NKP] unabashed efforts to entice independent and opposition lawmakers-elect in an attempt to form a majority in the 15th Assembly.

Six independent lawmakers-elect have joined the ruling camp so far, bringing the number of NKP Assembly seats to 145, only five seats short of the halfway mark in the 299-member legislature.

NCNP secretary-general Han Kwang-ok met his ULD counterpart Kim Yong-hwan yesterday in the Assembly and agreed on the meeting between the presidents of the two parties to forge an alliance in their struggle against the ruling camp.

However, they declined to go into the details of their discussion. They only said they confirmed what was agreed upon in a meeting of floor leaders of the two parties on Monday.

Floor leaders agreed to hold an Assembly hearing to bring to light all kinds of election irregularities committed by the ruling NKP candidates during the campaigns for the April 11 elections.

Informed sources said Han and Kim, while reconfirming what was agreed in the floor leaders' meeting, also discussed linking their struggle to the elections of the officers of the 15th Assembly to open in June.

What actions the two parties will take will be left to the two leaders.

The three opposition parties - the NCNP, ULD and minor Democratic Party - are set to send an open letter to President Kim Yong-sam tomorrow. Through the letter, they will ask him to end the prosecution's "biased" investigations of election irregularities and the ruling NKP's recruitment of lawmakers-elect to control the National Assembly, which they said is an act of distorting the outcome of the April 11 elections.

ROK: NKP 'Apparently' Refraining From Recruiting Lawmakers-Elect

SK0305003796 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 3 May 96 p 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After the April 11 general elections, the ruling New Korea Party [NKP] planned to draw in not only independent but also opposition lawmakers-elect to forge a congressional majority.

But the ruling party appears to be changing that plan and abstaining from enticing opposition lawmakers-elect into its fold for the time being.

Nevertheless, the ruling party is treating lawmakers-elect of the small opposition Democratic Party differently from those of other two major opposition parties.

The Democratic Party won only 15 legislative seats in the elections and needs at least five more seats to become a floor negotiation bloc. The ruling party appears to be regarding lawmakers-elect of the party as

independents, just as the National Assembly will treat them when it opens in early June.

A ruling party official said his party will consider recruiting lawmakers-elect of two major opposition parties after the inauguration of the new National Assembly.

The ruling party may have changed its earlier plan because of mounting public criticism that it was going too far.

Some newspapers charged that the ruling party's move to recruit lawmaker select from other parties runs against voters' desires.

In particular, the ruling party's recruitment plan invited harsh protest from the two major opposition parties-the National Congress for New Politics and the United Liberal Democrats [ULD]-and the small Democratic Party.

The opposition camp charged that the ruling party is using unfair political maneuvering to steal their legislative seats.

The plan also threw cold water on the reconciliatory atmosphere among political circles, which was beginning to develop after President Kim Yong-sam's talks with opposition leaders last month.

Angered by the plan, the two major opposition parties decided early this week to push for a parliamentary hearing on what they called frauds by the ruling camp during the general elections.

Even some ruling party officials opposed their party's recruitment plan.

"It is not right of our party to try to draw in other parties' lawmakers-elect indiscriminately regardless of their political color and backgrounds," said a ruling party's lawmaker-elect.

It is not only because of criticism from the public and the opposition camp that the ruling party is apparently abstaining from recruiting opposition lawmakers-elect.

The ruling party may have judged that it can secure a majority of the 299-member National Assembly seats without the recruitment of other parties' lawmakers-elect.

A total of six independent lawmakers-elect has so far joined the ruling party after the general elections, in which the party failed to retain a majority in the National Assembly.

The addition of these independents brought the number of legislative seats the party holds to 145, five seats shy of the majority party.

Further, Yi Kyu-taek, a lawmaker-elect, who bolted from the opposition Democratic Party, is expected to join the ruling party soon.

The ruling party may also predict that some lawmakers-elect from the opposition United Liberal Democrats will join the party after the new National Assembly opens.

"We see some ULD lawmakers-elect joining our ruling party someday because they dislike the opposition party's ideology, which leans toward the ultra-right," said a ruling party official.

ROK Editorial Says Bank of Korea Figures Lack Credibility

*SK0105020296 (Internet) The Digital Choson Ilbo
WWW in English 1213 GMT 30 Apr 96*

[Editorial: "Board of Finance and Economy Fabricated Figures"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] We are concerned about the international balance of payment figures for the first quarter of the year for three reasons. The first reason we are concerned is because of the resulting loss of credibility in the government's statistics. The Board of Finance and Economy, just before general elections were held, grandiosely announced that, for the first time in 1990, the trade balance in March recorded a favorable balance of 50 million dollars. The authority for the announcement of such news is usually the responsibility of the Bank of Korea.

But the correct figure for the trade balance in March revealed a 106 million dollar deficit, an error of 150 million dollars. The Board of Finance and Economy should explain why such an unthinkable margin of error was officially announced before such figures were finalized and should punish those who are responsible.

The second reason for our concern is the structural deterioration of our trade balance. Our trade balance for the first quarter in addition to the continuation of our trade deficit, revealed an rapidly increasing deficit in the balance of invisible-trade and transfer payments. This is a reflection of three elements: increased interest payments for foreign debts, travel expenses, and transfer of monies abroad. So with the current balance of payments for the first quarter exceeding 4.1 billion dollars, it is difficult to foresee that we will be able to contain our deficit under 6.4 billion dollars this year.

Lastly, our concern stems from the fact that this sudden increase in our trade deficit is not related to industry or production activity but, rather, more closely related to high-priced luxury consumer goods or sightseeing. This kind of trend is not desirable. The government

should seriously watch destabilizing factors affecting the trade balance as a result of such introduction of foreign capital.

ROK: Trade Deficit for First Four Months 5.9 Billion Dollars

*SK0105231396 (Internet) The Digital Choson Ilbo
WWW in English 1141 GMT 1 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The trade balance during April recorded a 2.08 billion dollar deficit, the highest monthly figure ever. Thus, the trade deficit for the first four months of this year has increased to 5.9 billion dollars. On Wednesday, the Trade Ministry announced that exports have increased 5.5% over the same month last year to 10.7 billion dollars while imports have increased by 14.8% to a level of 12.7 billion dollars. The 4.5% increase in exports in April marked the first one-digit increase since February 1994, 26 months ago. The April trade deficit is twice as much as the same month last year and constitutes the highest monthly figure ever.

ROK: First Bank, Hyosan Group Presidents Arrested for Bribery

*SK0105022996 Seoul YONHAP in English
0110 GMT 1 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, May 1 (YONHAP) — The President of Korea First Bank, Yi Chol-su, and the chairman of the Hyosan business group, Chang Chang-son, were both arrested Wednesday on bribery charges.

Yi was charged with having received 250 million won in "commissions" from Chang in return for extending an illegal loan of 188.1 billion won (241 million U.S. dollars) from September 1993 to March 1994.

Yi admitted to having taken only 100 million won of the alleged 250 million won in bribes from Chang, denying that he received the remaining 150 million won, an official said.

Chang obtained the loans for use in the takeover or building of hotels, condominiums and a ski resort in Seoul and vicinity, the official said. Current laws ban the provision of loans for use in such businesses unless they are located in government-designated tourist complexes, such as Cheju island, he added.

Chairman Chang had been implicated earlier in the case of former presidential aide Chang Hak-no, who was indicted on graft charges in March.

The chairman was accused of giving 60 million won to Chang Hak-no in return for his influence in securing a large loan from a Seoul-based bank to Hyosan.

Burma

Burma: Article Views Past Politicians, Praises SLORC

BK0305101696 *Rangoon KYEMON in Burmese*
30 Apr, 1 May 96

[Article in two installments by Sithu Nyein Aye: "Who Loves the People?"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt]

[30 Apr p 5]

It has been prescribed in the duties of children towards their parents to "love and protect your family and race." Those who love and cherish Myanmar [Burmese] tradition and culture know the five duties of children.

Those who safeguard their race are considered family-loving and dutiful sons and daughters, but those who do not defend their race cannot be recognized as family-loving and dutiful children.

It is clearly a deception if one who does not love his family says he loves the people. There are ulterior motives — seeking personal fame and selfish political gain — behind his love for the people.

Their expressions are controversial, inconsistent, and add fuel to the fire. These type of people are abundant in Myanmar political history.

When the Myanmar nation was deeply engaged in the struggle for independence after World War II, the governor general, Sir Dorman Smith, formed the Executive Council government and appointed Sir Paw Tun as vice chairman, with Sir Tun Aung Kyaw, Thakin Tun Ok, U Aye, U Ba Ohn, U Lun, Thakin Yan Aung, and senior British officials. Sir Paw Tun had an American wife.

History has shown how this so-called power-crazy politician with a foreign wife opposed the national leader, General Aung San. His treachery had been recorded in the annals of history.

A press conference was held when Gen. Aung San and his delegation returned to Yangon [Rangoon] after successfully signing the Aung San-Attlee Agreement in London, which paved the way for independence from Britain.

What Did Saw Paw Tun Do?

With a sour-grapes attitude, Saw Paw Tun, Dr. Ba Maw, and Galon U Saw called a press conference where he alleged that "Gen. Aung San sold the country".

History has already shown that. Who loves the people? Is Sir Paw Tun for the people?

History has examined whether or not one loves the people although one may have served the country with devotion at one time.

Thakin Ba Sein is well respected and considered one of the leaders in the history of Do Bamar Asiayone [Our Burman Organization].

Thakin Ba Sein, in his capacity as a cabinet minister in Gen. Aung San's government, accompanied the general and the Myanmar delegation for talks in London, as a member separately invited by Attlee. Another minister, U Saw, also accompanied the delegation in a similar manner.

Thakin Ba Sein and U Saw objected and undermined the Aung San-Attlee Agreement by refusing to sign it. Why did they object to the Aung San-Attlee Agreement, which was envisaged by a prominent leader of the Do Bamar Asiayone to free the entire Myanmar people from servitude? They tried to undermine it because they could not become leading players.

These sort of people are plentiful in Myanmar's present political stream. It is clear that on the one hand they reminisce about their former dedicated service to their country, but on the other hand they oppose the country by following in the footsteps of their hypocritical political brothers.

There is another person — Thakin Tun Ok, one of the Thirty Comrades [members of the nationalist movement that went to Japan for military training]. I applaud the Thirty Comrades' selfless act to free the country by going abroad for military training.

While serving as a cabinet minister in postwar Sir Paw Tun government, Thakin Tun Ok instigated the British Government's arrest of Gen. Aung San. I cannot imagine if any of today's youth even know about it.

At that time, the British Government, apart from the Sir Paw Tun puppet regime, had also organized a national legislative assembly with 50 representatives. At one such assembly session, Minister Thakin Tun Ok alleged that Gen. Aung San had passed a death sentence on an Indian headman from a village near Thaton, accusing him of being a British spy when the general reentered the country with the BIA [Burma Independence Army] forces. He noted that the general himself started to hack the headman with a sword. He was willing to testify and sought the arrest of Gen. Aung San for murder.

The news was even carried by the foreign media since the allegation was made at the assembly. Although the British Government issued an arrest warrant, it did not carry it out, and the case died a natural death.

Why did a member of the Thirty Comrades create such an unscrupulous plot against Gen. Aung San, your own comrade and national leader? The answer is clear: because he is power crazy and could not become a leading player. These type of people are present now. The Myanmar people should not forget history and should not be easily swayed.

There was a regional commander who made everyone fear him when he was on active duty. He loved tennis. When he arrived at a tennis court, the chair umpire had to declare "set point" for the current game, no matter what stage the game was at. That person served as a deputy minister and a minister. He became powerless when action was taken against him for corruption.

He emerged as a democracy movement leader during the 1988 disturbances, later went underground, and finally died in the jungles. He is no other than former minister U Sein Mya.

Why did those who are shouting democracy now not embrace democracy when they were in power? Why are they craving democracy just now? The answer is clear: because they could not become leading players. Those who look can see.

The Myanmar political stage, with its long history, is not in its infancy. There were politicians who dedicated their selfless services to national politics for the people. There were also many power-crazy politicians who turned treacherous in their desire to become 5,000 kyat salaried ministers.

During Gov. Gen. Sir Dormon Smith's postwar era, traitorous politicians like U Aye and U Ba Ohn quit as AFPFL (Anti Fascists People's Freedom League) leading committee members and took cabinet posts in the governor general's puppet government.

Our Myanmar people easily forgive and forget and tend to neglect historical facts. They are easily deceived and exploited because they do not try to learn lessons from history.

Gen. Aung San dedicated his selfless service to national politics for the freedom of the people. He anticipated power politics to follow national politics. That was why he mentioned his desire not to get involved in power politics after gaining independence.

Gen. Aung San scorned power politicians, whose sole priority was to gain power and who discussed national development only when they felt like it.

Power politicians have lost their shame and fear in attempts to obtain what they desire and to seek assistance from abroad — like Thakin Tun Ok trying to bring down Gen. Aung San with British help.

They intend to bring down national politicians with Western pressure and have urged foreign countries to exert pressure on Burma.

What do you think they will do once they gain power? They will first repay their gratitude to the foreign powers. For them, power comes first, not the people.

If this is the case, who loves the people?

The people should carefully consider whether it is the people on the side of national development or the power-crazy and unscrupulous.

[1 May pp 2, 4]

ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] has now become the fourth most important organization in the international economic scene after the U.S., the European Union, and Japan. The value of ASEAN's imports and exports in 1994 was U.S. \$506 billion.

However, as long as all Southeast Asia countries are not included in ASEAN, the group will remain incomplete and will not be able to genuinely represent all of Southeast Asia.

Currently, only seven out of ten countries Southeast Asia are its members. Myanmar [Burma], Laos, and Cambodia have yet to become members. ASEAN members greatly desire the membership of these countries and they have set an objective called ASEAN-10 to include all the ten nations.

There were attempts to include Myanmar when ASEAN was founded. Many representatives were sent to Yangon [Rangoon] to persuade Myanmar to join the group. However, with the Vietnam War at its peak and the Cold War escalating, Myanmar, which adhered strictly to a nonaligned foreign policy, was not prepared to join in.

The world has changed drastically now and Myanmar has acceded to the Southeast Asian Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

At a time when all Southeast Asian nations are beginning to unite and to join the organization, a woman [reference to Aung San Suu Kyi] has become conceited after receiving repeated awards from the Western Bloc. She gives the appearance that she cares for the interests of Southeast Asia, but she really wants to undermine the organization saying: "ASEAN should not accept Myanmar as a member as its economy is not yet in line with the model desired by ASEAN."

In this connection, I recall a fable. You have probably heard about the farmer who became king after he killed the king who stole and ate his farm's cucumbers.

Upon becoming king, he sent his courtiers with royal regalia to fetch his wife, who paid obeisance to the ministers. However, when the courtiers told the woman that she was now queen, she changed her manners and demanded: "Put me on the palenquin." This no-ordinary fable had guided General Aung San throughout his life. It reminded him not to become conceited and to remain level-headed.

This fable was recounted by Gen. Aung San's grandmother, Daw Thuza to a daughter-in-law, who came from an ordinary background and became conceited after marrying her son. (From "Aung San Family" by U Aung Than). Although this little fable was imbedded in Gen. Aung San's mind, he was not able to pass on this heritage. Not only this, he was also unable to hand down the heritage of a spirit of "not wanting to become another's slave" upheld by his grandfather, U Min Yaung, who earned the title of Shwe La Yaung. [Reference to beheading of U Min Yaung by the British colonialists and a nationalist's poem on U Min Yaung omitted]

Gen. Aung San was subjected to attacks and manipulations by pro-British politicians throughout his life. What would he have to say about the current political situation? I would like Gen. Aung San to see how the major foreign powers are instigating and pressuring on all fronts the state government, which is striving to build a new nation in accordance with its systematically set goal.

What would he have to say about those who visit and beg various countries and insult one's own country?

There are many triumvirates in Myanmar's political history, such as Pe-Pu-Shein [Ba pe, Pu, Tun Shein], Tu-Tha-Thin [Ba Tu, Po Tha, Ba Thin], Maw-Myint-Byei [Dr. Ba Maw, Kyaw Myint, Ba Byei]. In the [1988] events, there was a triumvirate called Aung-Suu-Tin [Aung Gyi-Aung San Suu Kyi-Tin U]. The veteran politician U Tun Pe also referred to Gen. Aung San's successors, U Nu, U Kyaw Nyein, and U Ba Swe as a triumvirate.

I wish Gen. Aung San could see how the 21st Century triumvirate [referring to Aung San Suu Kyi, U Kyi Maung, and U Tin U] is actively working to destroy the country. What Gen. Aung San would say one cannot surmise. He would probably said didn't I warn about power politics [two preceding word rendered in English].

The government is marching systematically toward a firm multiparty democratic system. It is not wavering. Nor is it striving to hold on to state power for ever. It does not lie to, deceive, and trick the people.

While gradually building up stability, the government is steadfastly working for economic and social development. It is neither wasting the country's basic resources nor pushing it toward gloom and doom.

The treatise on statesmanship prescribed the following conduct for government:

1. Conduct of Sakya King [king of deities] and Brahma King [king of heavenly beings called brahma]; that is to suppress those who should be suppressed and to reward those who should be rewarded;
2. Conduct of Sun God; that is to collect taxes compassionately;
3. Conduct like wind; that is to be well aware of inner and outer feelings of the people, from the poor to the court officers and commanders;
4. Conduct of Yama King [king of hell]; that is not to discriminate between the loved one and the one one does not love when meting out punishment for their offense;
5. Conduct like ocean; that is not to have selfish desires;
6. Conduct of Moon God; that is to keep the people happy and serene;
7. Conduct like rain; that is to keep the entire country prosperous;
8. Conduct like Earth; that is to become a refuge for the people.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council government is creating a peaceful refuge for the people while ensuring the prevalence of law and order and discipline for the people to enjoy the essence of democracy. It is striving to ensure the abundance of rice and water and giving priority to the enhancement of human dignity and good moral conduct. The SLORC is a refuge for the people in accordance with the Treatise on Statesmanship.

There is no need to find an answer to the question as to who loves the people.

Burma: MTA Urges Burma To Keep Promise on Community Development

BK0305045996 Bangkok BANGKOK POST
in English 3 May 96 p 2

[Unattributed report]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Burmese government has not honoured its promise to develop minority communities in Ho Mong village after drug kingpin Khun Sa and his Mong Tai Army [MTA] gave in to the

central administration, an unnamed MTA senior figure said yesterday.

An agreement had been reached between the MTA and the Burmese government that the latter would develop the living conditions of Ho Mong people if the former gave up its rebellious movement.

Although the MTA had officially surrendered early in January, the Burmese government said that it was not ready to conduct any development schemes for Ho Mong which used to be the MTA headquarters, the source said.

The message was given to Khun Sa's son, Chao Cham Huang, during his meeting with Burmese government officials in Rangoon in March. It really upset Ho Mong people the source said.

The case reflected that the Government was lying with its promise to develop communities of ethnic minorities which gave up their separatism attempts, the source said.

On the other hand, the Government turned a blind eye on drug trafficking like amphetamines and heroin in the central market of Ho Mong.

The drugs could be easily bought at low prices, the source said adding such a stance could be viewed as an attempt to destroy Ho Mong people in the long run.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Malaysia Voices ASEAN Opposition to Nuclear Weapons

BK0205134996 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The recent French nuclear testing in the South Pacific has raised doubts among ASEAN and regional states on the elimination of nuclear weapons. Deputy Defense Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said last year's signing of the Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapons Free Zone Treaty by all ASEAN member countries was a concrete expression of the group's opposition to nuclear weapons. ASEAN is opposed to nuclear proliferation, nuclear testing, stationing, and transport of nuclear weapons as well as dumping of radioactive waste at sea within the region.

He was speaking to delegates from the French Institute for Advanced Studies on National Defense in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil said it is Malaysia's hope that [words indistinct] and ASEAN solidarity would eliminate proliferation of nuclear weapons, which will eventually contribute to the progress toward gen-

uine and complete disarmament of nuclear weapons as well as the promotion of international peace and security.

Malaysia: Government 'Prepared' To Mediate in Afghanistan

BK0305093296 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Malaysia is prepared to be a mediator in Afghanistan if all the warring factions agree.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi says it will be difficult for Malaysia to play a constructive role if only one faction agrees.

Speaking to newsmen in Butterworth, he said it is Malaysia's desire to see all the warring factions resolve their differences over the conference status. Datuk Abdullah was responding to a statement by Afghan Charge d'Affaires in Kuala Lumpur Abdul Sattar Murad that Kabul wanted Malaysia to a leading role in helping the warring parties to achieve peace.

On the Lebanese request for Malaysia to help finance the reconstruction following the 17 days of Israeli blitz, Datuk Abdullah said Malaysia will consider the matter if there is a formal request.

Malaysia: Commentary Views ADB Membership, Financial Problem

BK0305090196 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0810 GMT 2 May 96

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Malaysia's relationship with the Asian Development Bank, ADB, is historical as well as harmonious. When the concept of establishing such a bank was transmitted in the mid 60's, Malaysia was among the first to support such an establishment and it even offered Kuala Lumpur as a venue for the ADB headquarters. However, due to one reason or another, ADB was founded and based in Manila in 1966.

Despite the unsuccessful bidding, Malaysia's support for the bank remained unwavering as evident in her participation in various activities of the ADB over the decades. Malaysia sees the virtues in the objectives of the ADB, which is primarily aimed at promoting the socioeconomic progress of its member countries in the Asia-Pacific region. And being a member of the Asia-Pacific community, Malaysia is obliged to play her role in the development of banking and financial sector of the region.

This week, the Asian Development Bank held its 29th annual general meeting of the board of governors in the

Philippine capital Manila. Malaysia's delegation was led by Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who is also the minister of finance.

Asian Development Bank board of governors comprises finance ministers, or central bank governors, of its 56 member countries. What makes this annual general meeting different from the previous one is perhaps that henceforth Malaysia is to play a more significant and prestigious role in the ADB development. Malaysia has been officially invited to become a donor to the ADB's concessional fund; that is, the Asian Development Fund, or ADF.

Metaphorically speaking, the fund is the soul for the Asian Development Bank as it is this fund that makes the bank live up to the expectations of its developing member countries. It is this fund that assists the needy member countries to combat and eradicate poverty. But sad to say, if nothing is done about it now, the fund will run out of cash early next year because Asia's rich nations and traditional Western donors have put off new commitments.

European donors have hedged on their contributions until the United States produces more money for the next replenishment. Meanwhile, the United States officials said they could not make any commitment at this juncture because of budgetary constraints. In view of this grim prospect, the Asian Development Bank is now straining to get new donors in order to get things going. According to the secretary general of the Finance Ministry, Clifford Herbert, Malaysia is seriously pursuing becoming a donor to the fund. But the government will only make a final decision after getting feedback from other Asian and developed countries.

In our opinion, special procedural consultation is merely a formality, as all these countries are well aware of Malaysia's own economic achievement and have no doubt about her financial and technical capability in taking up the role as a donor to the fund. Hence, we believe it's only a matter of time when Malaysia will accept this new role in the Asian Development Bank. In fact, judging from the speech by Anwar Ibrahim during the general meeting, one should be able to notice the prospects of Malaysia's acceptance. In his speech, the deputy prime minister called on all successful Asian countries to respond positively to the call of the ADB to increase the number of donor countries. He emphasized that successful Asian economies carry a certain measure of moral responsibility to assist the less fortunate members of the Asian Development Bank.

Malaysia, with her outstanding record of 8 percent annual economic growth over the past eight consecutive years, is surely not excluded from this cluster of Asian

nations which are now described as successful. Once Malaysia becomes a donor to the Asian Development Fund, Malaysia hopes the Asian Development Bank members to take heed of Anwar's advice. The deputy prime minister has called for a greater degree of pragmatism on the part of the bank in determining the criteria of the project financing rather than profitability. The bank must be sensitive to the growing criticism against bureaucratic rigidity. It is because too much red tape will impede the effectiveness of the bank. Consequently, the bank must act as an institution with a social conscience and with a genuine desire to help the poor member countries.

Malaysia: Yong Teck Lee Appointed Sabah's New Chief Minister

*BK0305100096 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia
in English 0800 GMT 3 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir has announced that Datuk Yong Teck Lee will be appointed as Sabah chief minister, to succeed Datuk Salleh Said Keruak who resigned from the post.

Earlier, Datuk Salleh Said said he has submitted his resignation letter to the prime minister some time ago. Salleh, who is Sabah UMNO [United Malays National Organization] chief, also said when he assumed the post in December 1994, he did so with the knowledge that he would have to give it up when the prime minister decided to implement his promise to rotate the chief minister post to leaders of the state's two other main communities — the Chinese and Non-Muslim bumiputra [indigenous people].

Malaysia: British Shipyard Building Two Frigates for Navy

*BK0305130296 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 2 May 96 p 4*

[Unattributed report]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wed — The two frigates being built by a British shipyard for the Royal Malaysian Navy [RMN] are likely to be delivered early next year.

RMN chief Vice Admiral Datuk Sri Ahmad Ramli Mohd Noor said today this was to allow the crew of the ships, KD [royal ship] Lekiu and KD Jebat to be trained to operate the modern and well-armed warships.

"Depending on the specific tasks of the crew, training should be completed after one and a half years," he said.

"This is why we are planning to deploy the ships for operations only sometime next year," he added.

He said this to reporters after attending a gathering for former RMN personnel at Rumah Baku in Jalan Hulu Klang.

These ships, named after the famed warriors of the Melaka Empire, are being constructed at Yarrow Shipbuilders in Glasgow at a cost of RM [Malaysian ringgit] 1.42 billion.

KD Lekiu will be armed with vertical launch Seawolf anti-aircraft missiles, making Malaysia one of only two countries in the world with such naval firepower.

Upon completion, both frigates will join KD Hang Tuah (Yarrow-built and formerly known as HMS Mermaid) and the German-built corvettes, KD Kasturi and KD Lekir, to form the core of Malaysia's strike flotilla.

Cambodia

Cambodia: Government Backtracks on Political Party Suspensions

BK0305055996 Hong Kong AFP in English
0541 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Phnom Penh May 3 (AFP) — The Cambodian interior ministry on Friday backtracked on the substance of an April decree that ordered all political parties except the four represented in parliament to suspend their operations.

"All 20 political parties who joined in the 1993 election and won or did not win seats in the National Assembly, are still recognized as legal political parties with sufficient legal rights to operate," co-Interior Ministers Yu Hockkri and Sar Kheng said in a statement.

"But, in order to simplify the work of the local authorities ... until a law regarding political parties is prepared ... all the parties must inform the Ministry of Interior ... if they are continuing their operations."

The statement went on to say that parties should also submit to the ministry their registration documents from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), which oversaw the 1993 election.

"If any political party does not send the information and documents ... to the interior ministry, the ministry will consider those political parties as not active."

Friday's statement significantly alters the language in the earlier decree which said that parties not represented in parliament were to be shut down until they re-registered with the ministry.

Many observers noted that that requirement would be impossible to fulfill until a law concerning the registration of new parties was passed.

However, human rights workers, who decried the April 19 order as a sign the government is slipping further toward totalitarianism, withheld judgement on Friday's statement.

"It is still not clear what rights these parties will have even if they comply with the order," said one lawyer. "They may still not be able to open offices in the provinces for example so I'm not sure that this is a full reversal of the original."

The original order appeared aimed at Sam Rangsi's banned Khmer Nation Party (KNP), which in March made a bid for legality by merging with one of the 16 parties that had registered for the 1993 election but had not won any seats.

Sam Rangsi condemned the decree as "totalitarian."

Left unclarified by Friday's statement was a clause in the April 19 directive that provincial authorities to produce reports on the past and current activities of aid agencies, religious organizations and associations.

That provision was regarded suspiciously by human rights workers who said it was tantamount to ordering the government to spy on aid groups.

Cambodia: Hun Sen Declares All Political Parties Legal

BK0305113996 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian
0500 GMT 3 May 96

[Speech by Second Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen at ceremony to mark International Press Freedom Day in Phnom Penh on 3 May — recorded]

[FBIS Summary] An 80-minute report on a ceremony marking the International Press Freedom Day begins with a brief description of the event, followed by a recording of Hun Sen's speech. In his speech, Hun Sen praises the Cambodian mass media for their successes in past years in promoting the freedom of expression, democracy, and development in Cambodia.

Commenting on the freedom and right to establish political parties, Hun Sen says: "Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to clarify the repeatedly raised issue concerning the freedom of setting up political parties and the putting up of party emblems which has created many problems recently. So far, I have neither said this party is legal or that party is illegal. I have, however, said that it is not yet legal. According to the law and fundamental rights, everyone has the right to establish political parties, set up associations, or express views. I would like to cite as an example the following: If I want to apply for a visa for Germany, Mr. (Peterson)

will definitely ask me for three photos. In principle, I will be allowed to enter, but the German embassy requires me to hand three photos to them. If the photos are not provided, I will not be able to go to the German Federation.

"A few days ago, His Excellency [H.E.] Nguon Soeur — chairman of the Khmer Nation Party — who is also present here, wrote to request my legal intervention. I replied that everyone has the fundamental right to set up political parties.

"Now, I wish to compare the right to set up political parties or associations to that of an unborn baby. Whether the baby will be born at the expected time or not depends on the baby himself. This is his fundamental right. The Constitution has already given the permission. Whether we want to register his birth or not is another matter. Therefore, I believe political parties which have existed since the 1993 elections, and those, regardless of their names, that have been set up recently are all legal. What they should do is to abide by some administrative formalities. For instance, if political parties, including those in the present assembly and Royal Government [RG], want to put up party emblems, they must apply for permission from the local authorities. They cannot do what they want. I think it is time to end this chronic problem and remove the bone that has been stuck in the throat. I have appealed to the co-interior ministers and local authorities to issue permits to those politicians so they can act legally. I do not mean that the political parties are legal or not legal — I mean we are all legal according to the natural law." [applause]

Hun Sen adds that he has long been a champion of democracy and that in Siem Reap Province in 1992, he called on all political parties, except the Khmer Rouge, to open offices in the regions controlled by the State of Cambodia. He continues: "Therefore, today I believe there is no reason whatsoever to hinder the opening of offices of all political parties, regardless of whether they are inside or outside the assembly or RG, or whether they have just been created. I have always said that the more party emblems are put up, the more wells the people will have. It is not possible for them to just put up party emblems without doing anything for the people. So, please, put up the emblems. I repeat, please put them up. I hope that village police, communal heads, and district and provincial governors have already heard my words. Giving this permit is like removing a bone from the throat. H.E. Nguon Soeur is free to create 20-30 more parties. You are all free to set up parties. The only thing you should do is to inform local authorities that you want open your office here at this address because this is an administrative formality that you need to fulfill."

Hun Sen adds: "The freedom of the press and the right to set up political parties or nongovernmental organizations, like an unborn baby, are natural, innate rights."

On rights and responsibilities, Hun Sen says everyone has rights and responsibilities from birth and that rights should be limited by morality, the law, and the humanity.

Concerning press development in Cambodia, Hun Sen urges journalists to forge ahead courageously to achieve more success. He reiterates that "no one will be punished for just expressing his views."

With regard to THE CAMBODIA DAILY question about his silence on the king's call to pardon three journalists sued by the government, Hun Sen says the reason he has not yet answered is that he needs to wait for the sentences to be handed down by the court.

Concluding by recalling the statement he made recently at the Phnom Penh Medical School, Hun Sen says: "You, reporters, caused the king to panic by reporting that Cambodian Co-Prime Minister Hun Sen threatened the members of the royal family who were together in France. They were all terrified. You have only created disturbance. So, you are asked to report what I have said accurately."

Cambodia: Hun Sen Holds News Conference 3 May
BK0305121296 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian
1300 GMT 3 May 96

[News conference by Cambodian Second Prime Minister Hun Sen with foreign and domestic correspondents at the Cambodiana Hotel in Phnom Penh on 3 May — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [VOA correspondent Ma-yarit] Greetings, Samdech Second Prime Minister. You have just said that you will give other political parties the legal right to conduct political activities in due time. Does this also include Sam Rangsi's party?

[Hun Sen] I am not the one to give that right to anybody. It is the natural right of a free man to set up a political party. So, no one has the right to give it to anybody. It is the natural right of a man to set up a political party, to speak, or to assemble. What I want to say is that any party — be it party A or party B, of whomever and no matter what his name — enjoys the same right. I hope you understand. I do not want to mention any name. Do you understand? Is it enough to understand? Do you need any more clarification? No? [words indistinct]

I meant all and stressed all parties. What we oppose is the creation of terrorist groups. Go ahead, if you want to set up political parties. You can set up another 100 and open offices. My wish is only to see that Cambodians are also allowed to stay [words indistinct].

[Mayarit] I also would like to know about the political party law. How is the work on this law going?

[Hun Sen] The Interior Ministry is drafting this law. At an Interior Ministry seminar a few months ago, I urged the ministry to quickly work it out in order to protect the activities of associations and the political activities of political parties because we are running out of time for both new and existing political parties to prepare for the local elections in 1997. All political parties will have the right to participate, not just those having representatives in the Royal Government or the National Assembly. In my opinion, members of other parties—even independent candidates—should be permitted to run. A teacher, a lecturer who wants to try his hand as a commune headman or an MP should be permitted to run for election without having to join any party. So, this is a point that the Royal Government is urging the Interior Ministry to consider.

[Mayarit] Concerning the dual nationality law, in reference to your speech the other day, will there be any hitch to the 1998 elections if this dual nationality law is not passed in time?

[Hun Sen] We are watching reactions to this issue. In my opinion, however, the grace period should come to an end. Not a single country in the world is known to allow its politicians to hold two nationalities. I do not understand. I do not believe that Helmut Kohl, a German national, or Li Peng, a Chinese national, or Vo Van Kiet, a Vietnamese national, or those foreign MP's hold any nationality other than their own. So, it is time for the grace period to end and for those who have dual nationality to closely coexist with the Cambodian people.

For example, I have seen the statement of His Excellency Nguon Soeu's Khmer Nation Party saying that a bigamist cannot claim to be loyal to his wives. That is the truth. The problem for a person with dual nationality is like that of a bigamist. When one wife is angry with him, he runs to the embrace of the other wife. He steals things from one place and keeps them in the other place. I do not want to accuse anyone of committing that crime, but in my opinion, politicians should have only one nationality in order to be fully responsible to the nation and to maintain equity between two nationalities.

Since you raised this question, I can talk about responsibility and equity between one nationality and another.

There can be no independence in negotiations if one person is the same nationality as the person sitting before him. That is my belief.

Take an example in which a Cambodian minister with German nationality must negotiate with Germany. How would he solve the problem if he had to negotiate with a German minister? He would be worried that Germany could withhold his nationality if he harmed Germany's interests too much. So, I see that this is not a minor issue. On the contrary, it is quite serious. In addition, I can add the question of sovereignty, which I have repeatedly commented on during the past few days. There is sometimes a case in which the other side wants to pressure us into signing a concession. They would use our weakness of holding their nationality, of living in their country. They could whisper, indirectly, through a third party: We will cut your interests in our country if you do not satisfy our demand. How could this matter be settled?

I have already said that, if the elections were to be postponed, the reason will be because of the impasse over the nationality law. The principle of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], supported by many other parties and MP's in the National Assembly, is to have only one nationality, and we will resolutely oppose any move to permit politicians to continue holding dual nationality in Cambodia. This is so that the people can see who is loyal to the country. Our official stance is one of holding only one nationality. The people will see for themselves who is loyal to them if those who have dual nationality refuse to vote for this law. This is my complete answer. The elections can be postponed only if those with dual nationality refuse to adopt this nationality law. If this law is passed because there are more single-nationality MP's than dual-nationality MP's, then it is the best thing.

[Mayarit] The other day you said that the elections can neither be delayed nor advanced under any conditions. Today you said that a delay would be because of the disagreement over passing the dual nationality law. Will the elections still be in 1998, based on what you said before?

[Hun Sen] You heard only one point in my speech. You did not ask me about my other point. I talked about my stance on the elections. I said the elections must be held on schedule, neither earlier nor later. With regard to nationality, I said I was afraid that those with dual nationality would not adopt the nationality law. I had my reservation here. You did not take my speech as a whole and examined only one aspect of it. That is my reservation. If the dual nationality law is not passed,

the elections will be postponed. If it is passed, then the elections will be on schedule. [passage omitted]

Is that clear? Do you have to make any comment on this? If not, just replay the whole tape. Your VOA caused the U.S. ambassador to apologize to me the other day. U.S. Ambassador Tony Quinn apologized to me through an assistant state secretary because VOA reported: He said to Hun Sen: You have not been educated to lead. The U.S. ambassador apologized to me, saying that VOA had blundered. I only want to remind you that the media exists if consumers believe in it.

[Unidentified newspaper editor] When you visited the orphanage at Phum Daeum Kor, you said that ministers [words indistinct] of the prime minister. Yesterday, however, when you visited Kandal Stoeng, you said that ministers—such as His Excellency Tol Loah—did not follow your instruction regarding the shortage of teachers. If the ministers do not follow the prime minister's good ideas, how badly is the work being bungled?

[Hun Sen] First, thank you for raising this question. There are two separate aspects of the problem. The first is about political principles concerning the politicians and the civil administration. Civil servants cannot be transferred or removed at will. They are protected by their civil service law. You cannot impose party quotas on the civil administration or the armed forces either. Political appointees, from the posts of under state secretary upward, are included in the prime minister's portfolio. The prime minister appoints anybody he can command when the prime minister is sacked or when there is a government reshuffle. When he leaves the government, he brings these people along with him, and the new prime ministers have the choice of taking them back or not.

There is a third aspect here that I talked about yesterday. The problem is that the minister is not in my portfolio because this is a coalition government. Kea Sahan is in my portfolio, while His Excellency [H.E.] Tol Loah is in Prince Krompreah Ranariddh's portfolio. If Kea Sahan is in the wrong, I can remove him immediately. Removing H.E. Tol Loah, however, is the right of the prince krompreah as agreed upon by our coalition government. In my opinion, however, it is completely up to the prince krompreah whether or not he removes the minister. It is his right, his business.

Now this is even better. Since this government has two prime ministers and there are dual government members in each ministry, I can overcome the problem, as I said yesterday when I ordered the state secretary to perform the work if the minister is absent or does not work.

The civil servants should also play along. Moreover, I saw a solution to the shortage of personnel in public services: We do not have to retire personnel when we cannot get replacements for them. The finance minister just continues to pay them, and the problem is solved.

For this reason, I said that I do not worry if anyone wants to leave or to stay in the government. The CPP said in its memorandum that it will carry on the permanence of the Royal Government even if some people want to walk out of it. It has never been stipulated that the government must dissolve if a few people walk out.

That is my point. It is not different. We have two portfolios in the coalition because we have two prime ministers. Is it clear now? Thank you.

[REUTER correspondent Hem Sophal] Recently, a number of foreign newspapers excerpted his majesty the king's remarks in Paris. They are as follows: The Royal Palace is full of male and female spies and is wiretapped. What is your opinion if these remarks are true?

[Hun Sen] I would like to emphasize that you should send this question to his majesty the king so he can answer himself. I cannot answer for him. These are the king's remarks. That is my complete comment on this question.

[Unidentified KHMER EKKAREACH correspondent] You said just now that you wanted many more parties to be set up legitimately. Is there any difference between this and the decision made by the Interior Ministry on 19 April ordering all political parties to suspend their activities.

[Hun Sen] Thank you for asking me this question. I was quite shocked when my adviser Om Yinteng sent me faxes on both my fax machines this morning to say he had some urgent business. [passage omitted]

I then saw that there was a message from H.E. Sar Kheng and H.E. Yuhokkri dated 19 April. I did not immediately read the contents, thinking that the co-ministers would have sent a copy to the government's office. The message talked about the temporary suspension of all offices of associations, nongovernmental organizations, religious organizations, and political parties. It ordered them to suspend all activities and to close their offices. My first reaction was to make an appeal to the co-interior ministers and to all levels of civil servants in my impromptu statement in order to rectify this incident.

H.E. Om Yinteng also phoned H.E. Prum Sokha this morning, who promised to issue an immediate

correction, retaining only the part pertaining to some administrative aspects of the order.

So, the Interior Ministry is changing what it wanted to enforce when it first wrote the order to conform with what I said in my speech. In my opinion, the administrative procedures are minimal. It is normal practice to inform the authorities of your travels because the duty of the local authorities is to give you protection. For example, if we open an office, they have the right to provide us protection. The armed forces and the local authorities belong to no particular party. They have the duty to protect all of us. The police are the national police and not the police of any party. The same with the Military Police. Therefore, we should inform them of our whereabouts. Maybe the government only wants to ensure that it gets that cooperation. Other things, in my opinion, will have to wait until passage of the law on parties and associations, what other criteria they have to fulfill and so on. [passage omitted]

So, in my opinion, there is no need for the prime minister to issue a countermesssage to negate the decision of the coministers, for they are preparing to amend it. H.E. Prum Sokha has already discussed this with H.E. Sar Kheng. They whispered to me just now that it was already signed. So, you are invited to reopen the offices as you please.

[UPI and Australian Radio correspondent Tim Sarin] In your conversation at your farm with the elders from Kong Pisei, Bati, and Kandal Stoeng Districts on 1 May, you said you were investigating another assassination attempt, but you did not elaborate on it, only saying that if it was not through your health it would be an accident. Can you publicly describe this plan or scheme? Another question: On the same occasion you said that the results of the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authorities in Cambodia] elections contained two mistakes, and you mentioned that this matter was merely suspended, not forgotten. Can you clarify this? Will you and the CPP revive the case if something happens?

[Hun Sen] About the first question, what will we accomplish if I talk now of the assassination plan? The investigation would come to an end, since the hypothesis becomes contestable. So we cannot say who wants to do it before the end of the investigation. It would be an unfounded accusation and a violation of rights if I name names. Therefore, we should not discuss it. Just let the authorities continue the inquiry. [passage omitted on UNTAC elections irregularities]

What I wanted to say was that there was talk recently that this party was the winner and that party the loser in the last elections. No one, however, has talked about the king's wise intervention. The situation was explosive in

Phnom Penh at that time. Thanks to the king's wisdom, we reached a compromise to keep what we had. Now, the CPP is saying: Temporarily suspend the question about election irregularities. I do not want to dig up this problem, which was like a buried corpse. As I said, however, there was a tornado in the heart of Phnom Penh that blew off the cover to expose the corpse.

Do not go too far. If necessary, the CPP can rally other parties that have the same complaint as the CPP to discuss this matter. It is better not to, however, because we will move back to where we started if we reexamine the matter. This means that all will have to cling to their separate zones and organize new elections. So, everything would come to naught, like an off-side soccer game. It is better not to talk about who won and lost. Rather, talk about joining hands and working under the wise leadership of the king.

That is what the CPP wants to say, and I must say it. I must explain it to the people. We were forced to swallow something that was not logical. We will check all the documents again if necessary and demand the return of the ballots. I regret it everyday because UNTAC gave us only the ballot boxes for the Interior Ministry to use during the next elections when it left and did not leave behind the ballots of the 1993 elections. Why? Why was it afraid to leave them with us? Maybe the cross marks on the ballots were check marks instead? It was not easy to instruct our people to cross the ballots. Some preferred to put circles, some crosses, and some checks. I do not accuse this or that party. It was a problem between all of the parties and UNTAC. [passage omitted]

Cambodia: Khmer Rouge Troops Movements Sighted Around Phnom Penh

*BK0305130196 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI
KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 3 May 96 p 11*

[Report by M. Santepeheap]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Government forces are currently conducting a mopping-up operation in an area bordering Ponhea Loe and Muk Kampul Districts of Kandal Province and Russei Ward of Phnom Penh City, where Khmer Rouge [KR] troops movements have reportedly been sighted.

Colonel Khuon Savon, commander of Kandal Province's operational subzone and of the mopping-up operation, said on the morning of 30 April that some 50 to 70 KR soldiers, split into several groups, have reportedly been seen since 19 April infiltrating a number of areas bordering the two districts. Another report said, however, that the KR groups had already

been withdrawn since 25 April, after having extorted money from some fishing lot owners in the areas. He also said that the small KR bands that had sneaked into the areas might attempt to fire artillery shells at Phnom Penh City. [passage omitted]

Col. Khuon Savon added that he firmly believed that the provincial operational subzone will be able to defend the areas under its control and will definitely not let the KR rebels act with impunity.

Phnom Penh police source also said that a large number of Phnom Penh policemen, commanded by Phnom Penh Police Deputy Chief Yet Razak, were sent recently to reinforce Russei Keo Ward's police unit in the campaign to defend Phnom Penh.

An army official of the Special Military Region said that not only had the reinforcements of the army, military police, and national police been sent to Pongha, Loe and Muk Kampul, but they had also been dispatched to other key areas around Phnom Penh in order to prevent ambushes from being laid by small groups of KR elements that had reportedly been sent from the northwest to the center of the country.

THE CAMBODIA DAILY quoted Defense Ministry Spokesman Chum Sambat as saying that the actual number and real objective of the KR troops sent from the northwest to central Cambodia were still unknown.

Cambodia: Khmer Rouge Claims Downing of Government Spotter Plane

BK0305021996 (Clandestine) Radio of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] On 30 April, our National Army shot down a puppet L-24 spotter plane in Preah Vihear. All its passengers were killed, including a colonel, a lieutenant colonel, and the pilot.

This news coincides with the news about In Sidare's death on the Route 10 battlefield. It has caused much fear and alarm among the remaining puppet officers and rank and file. They say this is a bad omen presaging the doom of the gallbladder-eating Hun Sen. The soldiers add that they will stop fighting; they can no longer stay on the front because Route 12 has been rendered impassable, tanks and armored personnel carriers have had to return to Preah Vihear, and transport trucks from Kompong Thom have had to retrace their way back to Kompong Thom. As for the few tanks remaining at Ta An, they have been hit by resistance fire, put out of order, or pinned down for over a week now.

Indonesia

Indonesia: 'Charter' Signed To End Student Protests in Ujungpandang

BK0205155096 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A team from the Natio??? Commission on Human Rights headed by Secretary General Baharuddin Lopa has signed a charter of reconciliation with the chief of staff of the Wirabuana Military Region Command, rectors of state and private colleges, student representatives, and community leaders to end the protests in Ujungpandang. South Sulawesi Deputy Governor Darmadi said the charter of reconciliation is expected to end the student protests that started early last week. The students were protesting an Ujungpandang mayoral decree on the readjustment of city transport fares. The charter of reconciliation deeply regrets the protests — which caused deaths — and authorizes the authorities to settle the incident comprehensively. All unlawful acts during the protests will be settled in accordance with law.

Indonesia: Megawati Welcomes Indonesian Military as Election Referee

96SE0065A Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 1 Apr 96 p 10

[FBIS Translated Text] Jakarta, 1 Apr (MERDEKA)—Megawati Soekarnoputri, general chairwoman of the PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party], says that supervision of the general election requires a referee who meets the disposition and character criteria for serving as referee. "If it can be likened to a game, the game will proceed properly and peacefully if supervised by such a referee," Megawati told reporters after attending an end-of-fast reception held by the PDI DPP [Central Executive Council] and the DPP of the Indonesian Council of Muslims (MMI) on Sunday, 31 March, at the Senayan Sports Arena in Jakarta.

When asked about the ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] desire to act as referee in the general election, Megawati said she gladly welcomed that desire. She said she had indeed greatly hoped that some part of the nation would be able to act as an unbiased referee to supervise the election.

Actually, the big question is the relationship between ABRI and GOLKAR [Functional Group]. Mega [Megawati] said in response to a reporter who asked about ABRI's sociopolitical role, which cannot be separated from GOLKAR, thus affecting ABRI's role as an unbiased referee.

She said that she has mentioned everywhere that the Sapta Marga [Armed Forces Oath] explains ABRI's origin and its required attitude.

She again emphasized that she greatly hoped that ABRI would be able to act as an unbiased referee, however, thus fulfilling the desires of all the people. "I greatly hope that what belongs to ABRI will belong to the Indonesian people," she said.

When asked who would give warning if its attitude does not reflect fairness, Megawati said concisely that if ABRI does not fulfill the hopes of all the people, the people themselves will naturally give warning.

"I believe ABRI would be warned by the people themselves, because ABRI belongs to the Indonesian people and nation. It is of, for, and by the people," she said.

Moral Decadence

In her speech at the reception, Megawati said she felt that a moral decadence, which is marked by denial of truth and erection of pillars of hypocrisy, is now sweeping over part of society, and such things are exhibited every day.

"We are all often urged to approve of those things," said Mega, who during the program sat next to MMI General Chairman Dimmy Haryanto, Sugeng Sarjadi, former PDI General Chairman Soerjadi, and prominent Central Java NU [Islamic Scholars League] figure KH [Islamic Scholar and Pilgrim] Umar Faruq. The chairman of the committee in charge of the program was KH Abdul Choliq Murod, leader of the NU's Al-Muroddin Islamic Boarding School in Central Java. The one who preached on that big occasion was KH Habib Noval bin Jindan.

Mega said, however, that she was very confident that all Indonesian people greatly long for a straighter national "journey," in which words and deeds are united.

Saying this is apparently very easy, she added, whereas the bringing of this to realization in the life of the community, nation, and state is often tripped up by self-invented interpretations of "truth and justification."

In the presence of about 2,000 Islamic scholars and PDI and MMI cadres from the various areas, Mega also noted that piety in the heart of each person will be very much negated if it is mixed with hypocritical practices.

"Pious deeds are, yes, pious deeds, not other kinds of deeds," she said.

Megawati and prominent figures present on that occasion also sent off about 50 Muslims who are to make the pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia, while Dimmy Haryanto presented aid for the boarding school, which cares for

orphans. The presentation was witnessed by KH Fadholi Al-Muhid, who earlier had also spoken on behalf of the Islamic teachers and scholars present.

Megawati, who wore a red dress combined with a red veil, was warmly welcomed by the cadres and guests who packed the sports arena. Each time a speaker mentioned the name of the oldest daughter of Bung Karno [former President Sukarno], the crowd applauded loudly.

The four-hour program was merry and free of trouble, although security appeared very tight. Security officers appeared on full alert both inside and outside the building.

Within the building, MMI task unit personnel, wearing green-striped vests, mingled with PDI personnel, who were wearing black vests. Outside, police and other security officers were on the alert, carrying shields usually used for putting down riots.

Philippines

Philippines Spearheads Initiative for APEC Customs Reforms

BK0305092996 Manila PNA in English
0338 GMT 2 May 96

[Report by Johnny C. Nunez — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Manila, April 30 (PNA) — The Philippines is now spearheading the initiative to reform and harmonize customs systems and procedures among Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum member countries.

The Philippine mandate is part of its chairmanship of the APEC Subcommittee on Customs Procedure under the Committee on Trade and Investments (CTI).

Aside from its mandate to harmonize customs procedures in APEC, the subcommittee has also been tasked to work on the implementing rules on origin and standards and conformance.

APEC has tasked CTI to oversee the development of matrices of the action plans for the 15 issue areas in the Osaka Action Agenda on Trade and Investment Liberalization and Facilitation (TILF).

CTI is expected to deliver its final report on the collective action plans on the 15 issue areas to the APEC Senior Officials in October for the draft Manila Action Plan for APEC (MAPA) for adoption by the APEC leaders meet in Subic, November this year.

Under the CTI setup, New Zealand has also been tasked to chair the APEC subcommittee for tariffs and non-tariff measures, competition policy, and deregulation;

the United States for investment and implementation of the Uruguay Round; Hong Kong for government procurement; Canada for dispute mediation, services, and information gathering and analysis; Australia for mobility of business people; and Japan for intellectual property.

The CTI and its subcommittees will meet in relay again third week of May at the Shangri-La Mactan in Cebu to update their preparatory work for the APEC fourth summit which the Philippines will host next November at Subic.

Also to meet in Cebu on May 22-25, in time with the CTI meeting and its subcommittees are the APEC Senior Officers to receive the initial reports and recommendations of the various APEC working committees.

Philippines Navy Holds Naval Exercise With Canadian Frigate

BK0305074096 Manila PNA in English
0337 GMT 2 May 96

[Received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Manila, May 1 (PNA) — Philippine Navy vessels held today a naval exercise with the visiting Canadian frigate HMCS [His Majesty's Canadian Ship] Regina as a send-off rite for the Hawaii-bound Canadian vessel.

Aside from physical maneuvers and simulated operations from imagined hostile targets, the naval exercise included various communications exchanges to test the compatibility of their communications systems.

The HMCS Regina belongs to the Halifax class and is said to be among the most modern frigate worldwide.

A Canadian Royal Air Force officer with the ship complained, however, that while the Regina is truly sophisticatedly modern, having been commissioned in 1994 only, their Sea King helicopter, the frigate's surveillance plane component was vintage 1963.

Canada's frigate fleet is the backbone of its navy after it scuttled its last aircraft carrier years ago.

The Canadian Navy, which consists of two major divisions patrolling their country's Pacific and Atlantic seaboard areas, however, still maintains its submarine fleet.

Manila was the HMCS Regina's last port call during its current round of visits to Asia-Pacific countries. It arrives Sunday, April 28 and left today.

The ship is now on its way to Hawaii to participate in the RIMPAC [Rim of the Pacific] naval exercise involving multinational fleets led by the United States Navy.

Philippines Armed Forces Chief: MILF Obstructs Peace in Mindanao

BK0305015596 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 2 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Armed Forces chief General Arturo Enrile has admitted that the Moro Islamic Liberation Front [MILF] is a major obstacle to the attainment of peace in Mindanao. During a visit, Enrile said the MILF has a strong influence in several towns in central and western Mindanao, particularly in Basilan and Cotabato Provinces. Enrile expressed fear that genuine peace cannot be attained because of the strong MILF forces.

Thailand

Thai Paper Comments on Political Situation in Cambodia

BK0305063196 Bangkok THE NATION in English
3 May 96 p A4

[Editorial: "An Ironic Defence of Cambodian Democracy"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Three years after the United Nations organised an unprecedented general election in Cambodia things are returning to "normal". The country is once again in a state of crisis and the world's hopes of seeing a model democracy take root in the blighted kingdom are fading.

It has become evident that "political strength" in Cambodia will continue to refer to the number of guns a particular party has, not the number of seats.

Second Premier Hun Sen made that clear last Saturday when he warned any attempt to dissolve parliament or the government would be met with military force.

"If they destroy the constitution, we will dare to use force," Hun Sen said in a speech to medical students that was filled with references to military might and defending the constitution.

It was an ironic defence of democracy.

Hun Sen argued that dissolving the national assembly before its five-year term was over would be unconstitutional and that any use of force on his part would be designed to protect the two-and-a-half year old document.

Hun Sen did not identify this public menace. But it was widely accepted he was referring to his coalition partner, first Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

who threatened last month to withdraw his FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party from government and possibly parliament.

The prince's move was prompted by long simmering anger over the failure of Hun Sen's Cambodia People's Party (CPP) to follow through on agreements to share power at all levels of government.

The dispute has its roots in the immediate aftermath of the UN elections in 1993 when the coalition was formed with the CPP holding a gun to Ranariddh's head. Defeated at the polls, the CPP implicitly threatened to go to war if FUNCINPEC did not share power. As part of the deal, FUNCINPEC claims it was supposed to get an equal share of the country's administrative structure, from ministerial posts down to local provincial level. The CPP disputes this.

Given their long history as ideological and battlefield enemies, conflict between the two parties was not unexpected. FUNCINPEC members are largely drawn from the formerly exiled elite, while many of CPP's top leaders, including Hun Sen, are past communists with peasant roots.

That it took such a short time for the democratic foundations laid by the UN to begin crumbling is also not surprising. The UN's failure to disarm the four factions always threatened to undermine the development of democratic institutions in the country. As such, Cambodia's fledgling parliament has been overshadowed by the increasing power of the two prime ministers and basic legal bodies such as the Constitutional and Magistrates Council are not yet in place. Still, it is facile to blame the UN, a structurally weak organisation with little resolve at the best of times, for the mess in Cambodia when the local political parties themselves refused to abide by the provisions of a peace deal they vowed to honour.

There is little hope things will get better in Cambodia until political rivals stop viewing government as a matter to be sorted out by jungle law. For this to happen, it will require the establishment of concrete democratic structures, respect for rule of the law, and acceptance of a parliamentary opposition. Most of all, it demands that politicians see themselves as servants of the people, not their rulers.

Unfortunately, the opportunity to start Cambodia anew with a new democratic slate seems to have come and gone. The UN came in and attempted to set up a model democracy. Most of the seeds, however, never took root. And those that did blossom are now being choked by the old vines of Cambodian style power politics.

Thailand: Political Tension Said Affecting Cambodia's ASEAN Bid

BK0305052296 Bangkok THE NATION in English
3 May 96 p A10

[Article by Marisa Chimprapha: "Political Feud Hurting Cambodia's ASEAN Bid"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] One of the main question marks hanging over Cambodia's drive to join Asean is the ongoing guerrilla war being waged by the Khmer Rouge.

A key criterion for being admitted to the regional grouping is political stability something Cambodia has been short of in recent decades.

Foreign Minister Ing Huot announced in Brunei last year that his government would wipe out the remnants of the Khmer Rouge resistance within two years.

But like it or not, the left wing rebels remain an obstacle that needs to be addressed as does the worrying political rivalry between the two main political parties of the ruling coalition, Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] and the Cambodian People's Party (CPP).

Political tension escalated recently when Second Premier Hun Sen threatened to use military force to deter protests against the government and prevent the dissolution of parliament. He even said that any form of demonstration was prohibited in the country.

It was seen as the most severe response yet by the CPP leader following Funcinpec leader Prince Ranariddh's declaration that the government would have no future if the royalist party withdrew. Prompting the threat was Funcinpec's anger over the CPP's alleged failure to abide by an earlier agreement that power would be shared at all levels of government.

Since it took office in September 1993, the coalition government with its dual premiers has failed to convince the international community of its commitment to observe human rights and democratic principles.

As such, political differences between the two major parties could hamper efforts to eliminate the Khmer Rouge resistance once and for all.

Hun Sen and the CPP have repeatedly stressed that the Cambodian government will eliminate the Khmer Rouge.

During the election campaign in 1993, Funcinpec pledged to bring the guerrillas into the political mainstream. However, it reversed its position and adopted the stance of the fiercely anti-Khmer Rouge CPP to

smoothen political relations during the power-sharing period after the election.

An independent source in Cambodia observed that the Funcinpec has lightened up on its anti-Khmer Rouge rhetoric.

"If the Khmer Rouge is eliminated, most of the credit will go to the CPP, not Funcinpec, due to the former's strong position against the guerrillas," said the source.

Sun Sen on Thursday blamed "a great storm" created by Funcinpec for the army's failure to seize the Khmer Rouge stronghold of Pailin in its latest offensive. Although he did not mention Funcinpec by name he referred repeatedly to a great storm that he said occurred in Phnom Penh in March, the month when Prince Ranariddh threatened to pull his party out of the government.

"That storm did not affect just political instability, it seems that (because of it) we have offered a gift to the Khmer Rouge," Hun Sen said in a speech broadcast last Thursday on national radio.

"We had decided to take Pailin and end the occupation of the Khmer Rouge but we could not imagine that the political mistakes committed by just one political party could have crested such great influences on the battlefield."

While the two political parties bicker against each other, the Cambodian people continue to suffer. Most are mired in poverty and have yet to recover from decades of civil war.

"It is the responsibility of Asean to decide whether the political situation in Phnom Penh is stable enough for the country to become a member," said a long-time Asean diplomat.

Asean is composed of Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Even if the Cambodian government's internal conflicts remain unresolved, Asean member countries might still want it to become part of the grouping just to be able to fulfil its founding fathers' dream of uniting all the Southeast Asian countries.

The Phnom Penh government has forwarded its application for full membership to the Asean secretariat and to the Jakarta government, which will be chairing this year's Asean meeting. Laos has also made an application for full membership. The same Asean diplomat suggested that the political bickering in Phnom Penh should be taken into consideration when Asean foreign ministers meet in Jakarta this July.

"Asean does not just simply want to see 10 Southeast Asian countries united. They want to ensure that new members will not be a burden on their shoulders," the official said.

Compared to Burma, Cambodia has a legitimate government and its own constitution.

However, the situation in Cambodia has affected Asean's readiness to accept the country as its eighth member. Some Asean watchers think Burma has a greater chance of becoming a member first, because of its greater human resources and the fact that much of the population speaks English, the official language of Asean.

It does seem that Asean is more than willing to welcome Burma into the group despite its illegal and repressive government and the world's condemnation of human rights abuses committed by its military.

There are several differences between Cambodia and Burma, politically and socially. While Burma is ruled by a junta that refuses to hand over power to an elected government, Cambodia is administered by an elected government that came to power through democratic means.

An Asean expert said recently that before endorsing any application for membership, Asean must see to it that all requirements are met.

If it decides to turn down a country's application, Asean need not outline the reasons why it did so, he said. That country will be informed only that it is not yet ready to join the grouping, he added.

The political tension on power sharing, observers say, will continue until the 1998 election. Despite King Norodom Sihanouk's attempts at mediating a solution, no compromise to maintain the government's stability is expected to be reached soon.

Thai Commentary: Parties 'To Harm Each Other' in Censure Debate

*BK0105134096 Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai
5 May 96 p 34*

[Commentary: "Chawalit-Sano's Scheme To Seize Government Power by Using the Opposition's Hands To Butcher Banhan"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The opposition bloc may not have attached much hope that the 8-9 May no-confidence debate would trigger a drastic change in the government, either by a cabinet reshuffle with the withdrawal of a certain party from the coalition, or an end to the Banhan government. Deep down, however,

the opposition wants to open a new wound among government parties in order to further split their already fragile unity.

For this reason, the opposition has chosen to limit the targets of their no-confidence debate to the ministers it believes to be susceptible. The opposition thinks the debate will trigger changes in the cabinet. The alleged involvement of targeted ministers in unsavory deals also contributes to their being targeted. Moreover, some MPs in the government may decline to vote in confidence of the targeted ministers because they may belong to a rival faction within the party.

The 10 ministers targeted in the no-confidence debate are: Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, Finance Minister Surakiat Sathianthai, Commerce Minister Chuchip Hansawat, Deputy Interior Minister Suchat Tancharoen, Deputy Finance Minister Newin Chitchop, Education Minister Sukhawit Rangsitphon, Industry Minister Chaiwat Sinsuwong, Deputy Prime Minister Montri Phongphanit, Agriculture Minister Suwit Khunkitti, and Deputy Communications Minister Chaiphak Siriwat. Of these, the opposition's main targets are Banhan, Surakiat, Chuchat, Sukhawit, and Chaiwat. It anticipates the debate will generate problems within their respective parties and among the government parties.

The opposition knows that the interior minister post currently held by Banhan is much sought after by Sano Thianthong, the Chat Thai Party secretary general and leader of a main faction in that party. If the opposition can convincingly point out Banhan's flawed administration of the Interior Ministry and force him to leave his ministerial seat, the intense struggle for the vacated seat between the two main factions in the Chat Thai Party would be unavoidable.

Deputy Interior Minister Suchat has been the target of serious allegations regarding the manipulation of land deeds and dubious sources of funds used for the takeover of companies in the stock market. The MPs in the government wing, particularly from a rival faction in the Chat Thai Party wing, could cite moral grounds in order to refrain from voting for him in the no-confidence debate. This would further exacerbate the rivalry within the Chat Thai Party. Moreover, other government MPs who already dislike Suchat could vote against him.

Finance Minister Surakiat and Education Minister Sukhawit have no base of support within their parties. There have been frequent calls for their removal, particularly from the government parties; therefore, these two ministers could receive fewer votes than required to keep them in the cabinet.

Industry Minister Chaiwat of Phalang Tham Party said that if the oil smuggling problem is brought up, he would expose those politicians believed to be involved in the smuggling racket. This would certainly tarnish politicians in the Chat Thai Party and the party itself.

If all the above scenarios do occur it would mean that disputes within government parties and among them have reached such a scale that could collapse the government.

It should be noted that since 8 April there have been activities that are tantamount to an attempt by government parties to use the opposition's action to strengthen their bargaining power. The Sano faction in the Chat Thai Party has been pressuring Banhan to vacate the Interior Ministry post after the no-confidence debate, in exchange for their votes in the debate. General Chawalit Yongchaiyut of the New Aspirations Party has campaigned vigorously for government approval of the military satellite project. He has not yet succeeded, but approval is likely to come because the government parties have in mind the number of votes needed in the debate.

In short, the no-confidence debate launched by the opposition bloc is really being used by the government parties to harm each other.

Thai Navy Commander Justifies Submarine Purchase Plan

BK0305092296 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Navy Commander Admiral Prachet Siridet disclosed that the readjustment of the specifications of the two submarines the Navy planned to purchase had been submitted through the defense minister to the government. Given the advances in weaponry and new military strategies coupled with the latest international developments, the Royal Thai Navy deems it necessary for Thailand to have submarines and modern war equipment and weapons because the country's location is vulnerable to a sea blockade.

Vietnam

SRV: Officials Join Thailand in Hailing Success of Talks

BK0004135196 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 30 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The deputy foreign ministers of Vietnam and Thailand both welcomed the progress in the talks between the two countries on economic cooperation, fishing, and highway linking of the two countries.

Speaking to pressmen in Bangkok, Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan said the meeting was a success. The meeting was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, last weekend.

SRV: Land Transportation Protocol Signed With Laos

BK0305090596 Hanoi VNA in English
0532 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA May 2 — Vietnam and Laos signed in Vientiane, Laos, yesterday a protocol on the implementation of land road transportation agreement concluded on February 24, 1996 between the two countries.

Signatories were Vietnam's Deputy Minister Bui Van Xuong and his Lao counterpart Khamlouat Sitlaken.

The protocol provides detailed guidance to the implementation of the agreement on road transportation. It includes 15 articles, which among other things, define the border gates and time limit for procedures for transport of goods and passengers, thus creating convenient conditions for the travel and goods transport of people from the two countries.

The signing was witnessed by Lao Minister of Transport and Communications, Posts and Construction Phao Bounnaphon and Vietnamese Ambassador to Laos Bui Van Thanh.

SRV: Do Muoi's Speech to Security Congress Reported

BK0305153696 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network
in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 3 May 96

[Speech by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, at the Public Security Central Force party congress in Hanoi on 2 May—read by announcer]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear Comrades: Our party always confirms that the two strategic duties of our revolution—namely, the construction and the protection of the socialist fatherland—must be closely combined. All efforts must be exerted for socioeconomic development. At the same time, the duty of national protection, maintaining political stabilization, strengthening national defense and security, upholding the law, and ensuring a healthy social environment for national construction and development must never be disregarded.

The construction and the protection of the socialist fatherland are the two strategic duties of close relations. The strength to protect the fatherland is only increased on the foundation of socioeconomic development. By the same token, socioeconomic development can only

occur in an atmosphere of peace and stability. The protection of national security and social order and safety must actively serve the undertaking of socioeconomic development. Greater socioeconomic development will create a firmer foundation for political stabilization and the protection of national security and social order. Therefore, in all programs and plans for national construction and development at the macro as well as at the micro level, the socioeconomic issue must always be linked to the issue of national protection.

The protection of the fatherland is the duty of the entire party, people, echelons, and levels, in which, the military force and the security force are the main forces. Uncle Ho taught that our people have two forces. One is the military force to fight against foreign invasion for the protection of the fatherland and for the preservation of peace. The other force is the security force to fight against enemies and subversive groups in the country. The military fights in war and trains in peace. The security force must permanently fight the enemy, in times of peace as in war. You comrades must remember these sound teachings from Uncle Ho and closely coordinate the national defense duty with the security duty, and the people's military force and the people's security force must cooperate satisfactorily through efficient planning, guidelines, and working structure.

The public security force must clearly define its regular and primary duty in the fight against peaceful evolution, the protection of national security, upholding the law, and maintaining social order and safety. Our country is entering a new period, a period for the acceleration of national industrialization and modernization. The public security force needs to continue renovating its working method to meet the requirement of national protection and to provide satisfactory service to this great undertaking.

The development of the combined strength of all of the people and the political system under the party leadership and state management to strongly build the people's security system, actively frustrate all conspiracies by hostile forces, efficiently prevent crimes, and strongly maintain social order and discipline together with the concentrated, uniform, and timely leadership of party committees at all levels and the efficient state management over the security and social order work are the matters of principle that need to be fully comprehended and satisfactorily carried out. The protection of the party, regime, and revolutionary achievements recorded by our people must be strengthened. The political, ideological, and legal fight must be resolutely carried out against our enemies and bad elements, who want to sow uncertainty and deviation from the position

and the leadership role of our party. The protection of internal political security must especially be given attention to quickly discover all actions of penetration and sabotage by the enemy and contribute to the building of a clean and strong party.

We must continue to renovate and further intensify state management over public security and order, urgently overcome loopholes and weaknesses in management, uniformly introduce various laws and policies, and strengthen administrative management over public order and security.

Lately, the government has introduced many major policies and has initially obtained some good results in maintaining traffic safety and urban order, reestablishing order and discipline in the cultural field, and eradicating social vices. It is necessary to further develop these results in the process of building a law-governed socialist state in our country and to institutionalize the obligation and responsibility of various echelons and sectors toward the cause of maintaining public security and order.

We must launch a popular movement widely to protect the fatherland's security and another popular movement for self maintenance of grass-roots public security and order among various communities and in every hamlet, neighborhood, village, street, production establishment, public organ, and unit. As Uncle Ho put it: We have tens of million of people who can serve as our eyes and ears. Everything will be alright if we know how to rely on the people.

The party committee of the central-level Public Security Force must: unfailingly concern itself with launching a popular movement for self defense; satisfactorily carry out its didactical propaganda to improve vigilance for party cadres, members, and the people; and build village militia and public security organizations and those self-defense forces at various public organs and enterprises into clean and steadfast ones so that they can serve as a backbone for the popular movement for the maintenance of public security, order, and social safety. It is necessary to multiply basic models to carry out this task satisfactorily.

The party committee of the central-level Public Security Force must continue to provide guidance for the building of a clean, steadfast, regular, and gradually-modernized public security force with the task regarding party building in the entire public security force being at the core.

The party committees of the Public Security Force at various levels must be profoundly aware of their overall leadership position and role and must renovate and rectify themselves in order to improve their militancy.

Now more than ever before, public security cadres and combatants are required by the party and the people to be absolutely loyal to the party and the fatherland and to wholeheartedly serve the people. They must continue to renovate various aspects of their work, be resourceful and brave, further increase the degree of intelligence in their struggle to satisfactorily carry out Uncle's teachings for the Public Security Force, namely: paying greatest attention to the teaching of overall qualities; forging one's own ethical qualities; fighting negativism and corruption within the internal ranks; guarding against the bullying of the people; and avoiding creating inconveniences for the people.

Dear comrades: The country's new era of development is opening up a bright future for our people. I am convinced that with the glorious tradition and the fine qualities of public security cadres and combatants—who enjoy direct and comprehensive guidance from the party and the trust and assistance of the people and who know how to draw on initial yet very valuable lessons of experience—the Public Security Force will certainly be able to overcome difficulties and ordeals in their efforts to outstandingly fulfill their assigned missions, to actively join our entire party, army, and people in the steady advance toward that bright future by stepping up the process of industrialization and modernization to achieve the goals of making the people prosperous, the country strong, and the society equitable and civilized, and building socialism successfully.

Australia

Australia: Foreign Minister Views Regional Security

BK0305100196 (Internet) Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade WWW in English 2 May 96

[Address by Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer at a conference on "The New Security Agenda in the Asia Pacific Region" in Canberra on 2 May: "Security Through Cooperation"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Introduction]

The Asia Pacific region is Australia's place. It is the area where we make and establish many of our international friendships. And it is where we must build the secure, safe environment which is a prerequisite for the prosperity and quality of life we seek for all Australians. When the Australian Government says that closer engagement with Asia is its highest foreign policy priority, it means that this country is unequivocally committed to our region and is committed to finding its prosperity and security here, 'right where we belong'.

Australia finds and builds its future prosperity by developing its export markets and so creating jobs for Australians and long term economic security. Australia strives to guarantee security in the Asia Pacific region by cementing its friendships with other nations and works to create a stable and secure environment where this country and each country of the region can similarly flourish and be at peace.

Principally Australia does so by contributing to the security of our region through cooperation. This is clearly critical to Australia's long term national security. Australia will not be fully secure — it will not be free from the threat of military conflict, nor from other non-military threats to our physical security — if our own region experiences turmoil or conflict.

Australia therefore, needs to take a long term view of security and maintaining stability in the Asia Pacific. The country must be hard-headed about our security environment, about the influence Australia can bring to bear on regional developments, and realistic about the role Australia should play in the region. Today I want to outline briefly the key elements of Australia's foreign policy approach to regional security. First, with reference to current developments in the Asia Pacific region and secondly, by outlining the new Australian Government's plans to enhance regional security cooperation.

The Asia-Pacific Security Landscape

The first point to be made about the present security environment in the Asia Pacific is perhaps the most

obvious: the Asia Pacific region is in the process of profound transformation. This is in part the result of the end of the Cold War. It is also a by-product of the dramatic increase in regional economic interaction over the past ten to fifteen years, and the sustained high rates of economic growth recorded by so many regional countries.

These rapid economic changes are worth dwelling on. Asian countries have compressed into 50 years the Industrial Revolution which the West took 200 years to complete. On average, Asian economies grew 6 per cent last year, compared to 2.8 per cent in Western Europe and 2.7 per cent in the United States.

By the year 2020, if growth continues near its recent pace, and I believe it will be, China will have the world's largest economy with Japan, India, Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand in the top ten. This has led to vast changes within these societies, and will continue to do so, which heralds even further economic and social development. The World Bank estimates that per capita incomes in East Asia nearly quadrupled over the last 25 years despite growing populations. Together, these vast changes in the region have profound implications for its security.

Implications of the End of the Cold War

The cessation of the Cold War marked the end of the post World War Two security architecture, which was characterised by overarching and global competition between the United States and the USSR. Its passing has, inevitably, generated a range of new security challenges.

First, there are now more major players in the region. Japan, China, Korea, Indonesia, and increasingly India, are all growing powers and a major consequence of this is that all countries in the region must now work very carefully through the implications of more complex security relationships. United States involvement in the region remains the single most important factor in regional strategic planning and, of course, is crucial to the region's stability. The US-Japan relationship is clearly the most important single bilateral linkage in the region, but other relationships are now rightly receiving increased analytical attention.

Secondly, within the region there are a number of unresolved issues which have the potential to develop into disputes affecting national and/or sub-regional security. These quarrels are to be found both within States and between States. The primary issues of concern are well known: ongoing antagonism between the Republic of Korea and the DPRK; competition in the South China

Sea; uneasiness between China and Taiwan; and continued instability in Cambodia. They require us to be both vigilant and pro-active in contributing to their resolution.

Thirdly, a range of non-military challenges to Australia's physical security have also come to prominence in recent years: threats to the environment, the international narcotics trade, transnational epidemics and unregulated population movements are examples of the sorts of issues that require global and regional cooperative solutions.

Economic Dynamism and Security Relations

The region's economic transformation has also had a significant impact on regional security relations. The relationships between economic growth, economic interdependence and security are extremely complex and, in the case of the Asia Pacific, the full implications of economic development and economic interaction for regional stability have yet to unfold.

Over the past two decades, intra-regional trade has grown dramatically. Countries in the Asia Pacific are now much more economically interdependent and consequently familiar with each other. This increase in trade has brought people together from a wide range of regional countries and increased the extent to which economic interaction has significantly helped to reduce the potential for conflict in the Asia Pacific region. Yet growth and interaction bring with it other challenges. Over the longer term economic development will lead to shifts in relative power and is likely to have an impact on the pattern of regional security relations. Economic development is already giving Asia Pacific governments the means to acquire greater defensive capacities than in the past. These factors have the potential, if appropriate steps are not taken, to destabilise existing security patterns, heighten tensions and reduce security throughout the region.

But a key challenge economic growth and interaction bring with them is the possibility of a scarcity of resources. The region's rapid economic growth, coupled with the relatively low resource bases of some regional countries give rise to the possibility that over time countries will foresee difficulties in obtaining sufficient resources to support continued high rates of growth.

Ongoing access by the East Asian growth economies to energy and other resources will therefore be central to the maintenance of regional stability. The solution is straight forward. It is the continued development of free and open trading and investment arrangements at both global and regional levels, together with creative,

cooperative measures for the joint development of resources.

A final point that should be made here is that regional stability is essential to the maintenance of the region's economic growth. While the region's security landscape is undergoing major change and facing new challenges, there is also a range of forces helping to enhance regional security cooperation. These promising developments include the global trend towards regionalism as a force for stability, the positive impact of technological advances, especially in communications and the emerging sense of shared interest in the region's future that is increasingly evident throughout the Asia Pacific.

These factors lend support to and make more promising the prospects for regional cooperation in this period of transformation. They are tools that Australia must utilise in contributing to the resolution of outstanding issues and to the development of cooperative regional security arrangements.

Australian Objectives

In the short to medium term, the primary objective of Australia's regional security policy will be to discourage the emergence of strategic confrontation in the Asia Pacific region. To this end, the Australian Government will be working to help bring regional countries closer to each other, by contributing to the building of constructive security arrangements in the region. Strengthening the web of Australia's bilateral security links will make a positive contribution to discouraging regional strategic competition. In the longer term, Australia must aim to build a regional environment which is characterised by both resource security, and the development of a culture of trust and consultation.

The question, of course, is how. I have already suggested that the prospects for ensuring the region's long term resource security will best be enhanced by continued liberalisation of trade and investment and other forms of regional cooperation. Australia must be an active and positive contributor to these efforts. With this in mind, Australia will approach building up regional security in three distinct ways.

Country to Country Security Links

In the first instance, the Government will be looking to strengthen the web of ties that Australia has within its immediate region. Australia's regional defence links are already strong and are extensive. Australia is a party to ANZUS [Australia-New Zealand-U.S. Defense Pact]. It is party to the Five Powers Defence Arrangements with Malaysia and Singapore, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. Defence Relations with New Zealand are long

standing and of ongoing importance and the Government will develop the full potential of the Closer Defence Relations (CDR) agreement. The Joint Declaration of Principles with Papua New Guinea [PNG] enshrines basic principles for the maintenance and strengthening of our defence relations with that country. On the eve of visiting PNG, I want to reaffirm the Government's commitment to the Joint Declaration of Principles and to make particular reference to Australia's shared history and friendship with the Government and people of Papua New Guinea. And, of course, the Agreement on Maintaining Security which was signed late last year has enhanced significantly Australia's security ties with Indonesia. These arrangements together provide a solid foundation for security links between Australia and South East Asia and the Australian Government will be working further to build on that foundation.

In connection with the Australia-Indonesia security relationship, I should note in passing that during my first official visit to Jakarta last month, I reaffirmed the Australian Government's support for the new Security Agreement. The signing of that Agreement was a logical development of the closer cooperation that has been built with Indonesia in the security field over a number of years. I indicated to the Indonesian Government that the new Australian Government wanted to develop the security relationship not just in terms of defence cooperation but in terms of a dialogue about regional security issues more broadly. I might also note that, in our talks, President Suharto spoke in very clear terms about Indonesia and Australia sharing a destiny in the region.

We must also maintain and strengthen close links with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei. Constructive interaction between the Australian Defence Force and the defence forces of key countries in our immediate strategic environment will represent an important contribution to confidence building in the region. Strengthened bilateral security dialogue with North Asia countries will also be a priority for the new Government. Beyond their own intrinsic value, a key aim of developing the web of security links I have described here is to strengthen regional security cooperation in a way that does not open up regional divisions or invite strategic competition.

United States' Involvement in Regional Security

A second strand of the Government's approach to regional security will be to ensure a continued, strong United States presence within the East Asian region. It is critical that Australia pays proper heed to the role of the United States in the maintenance of regional security. Australia must, in particular, give due weight

to the importance of the United States-Japan security alliance. This alliance locks the United States firmly into the region. It is fundamental to the security and prosperity of the Asia Pacific region. May I say on this point, that the Australian Government welcomes wholeheartedly the recent reaffirmation by President Clinton and Prime Minister Hashimoto of the strong security relationship between the United States and Japan. Their Joint Declaration on Security demonstrates the vitality of the alliance as a continuing force for regional stability and was welcomed by the Prime Minister Mr Howard who has written to both President Clinton and Prime Minister Hashimoto expressing these views.

I should also add in passing that the Australian Government welcomes the positive signals emanating from high level meetings such as that between Prime Minister Hashimoto and President Yeltsin in Moscow prior to the recent Nuclear Safety Summit. The central role that is played by the United States in Asia Pacific security is also demonstrated by the responsibility it has taken in maintaining security on the Korean Peninsula. The United States' presence in the Republic of Korea has been absolutely crucial to the latter's peaceful development over the past forty years.

In respect of recent developments on the Korean Peninsula, the Australian Government fully supports the United States call for four-party talks between the US, the ROK, China and the DPRK. It is a welcome and realistic option that is worth pursuing if a lasting peace for the two Koreas is to be found. Of course, the United States also has security treaties with Thailand, the Philippines and importantly Australia which heightens further the United States' role in the Asia Pacific as the region's anchor of stability.

Regional Security Dialogue

The third strand of the Government's approach to regional security cooperation is regional dialogue and the role of regional institutions.

The ASEAN Regional Forum [ARF] is, at present, proving to be the most comprehensive framework for regional security dialogue. The Government strongly supports the strengthening of the ARF in practical ways. It assists regional countries get into the habit of dialogue and cooperation on defence and security issues. The ARF helps to build trust, a sense of shared interests and a sense of shared responsibility, and the Government believes these are essential for shaping the region's long term security future. Although the ARF is still in its infancy it is beginning to produce concrete results. The annual ARF meeting is at present primarily a dialogue

process in which Foreign Ministers exchange views on strategic and security issues of importance to the region. But consensus is now beginning to develop amongst member-states that the ARF should move to implement a number of agreed cooperative measures so that the body can start making a practical contribution to the region's peace and stability.

We should not forget, however, that the East Asia/Pacific region has no prior history of cooperative security groupings. The region has its own peculiar history and dynamics, and we should be wary of transposing the structures and the experience of security cooperation utilised to understand and develop security groupings in other parts of the world. The ARF is, in short, a unique and fledgling body that will develop in its own way and in its own time. It is not the Australian Government's intention that the ARF become a collective defence arrangement such as NATO. Indeed there is little inclination among any of the ARF's member-states for this to happen. The ARF will, however, be increasingly valuable if it continues to instill greater confidence and transparency in the security thinking of all member-states.

Specifically, the ARF should continue to develop regional dialogue on issues such as defence planning and acquisition, and should take forward the agenda for developing preventive diplomacy in the region. This, in time, may lead to it becoming a body which can negotiate the resolution of disputes through agreed mechanisms.

Cooperative Mechanisms in the Region

I referred earlier to the economic path of trade liberalisation and greater interdependence as the key way in which the potential problem of scarcity could be dealt with. In this context, economic regional institutions have their role to play in dealing with the issue of resource scarcity and so effectively build greater security in the region. The Australian Government is, of course, deeply committed to the development of APEC as the region's pre-eminent institution for economic cooperation. Australia will also continue to pursue as a matter of priority the implementation of the system of international trading rules under the World Trade Organisation.

In addition, the Government will be pro-active in seeking to contribute to creative endeavours to develop jointly scarce resources. Australia has, for example, over a number of years been involved in the work of the Mekong River Commission and its predecessor, the interim Mekong Committee, which is seeking to ensure sustainable and equitable development of the Mekong Basin's resources for all of the countries in the region. This sort of cooperative effort is an example of the ways

in which the region can best tackle issues pertaining to ongoing resource security over the long term.

The other component of the Government's longer term objectives, developing mutual trust and respect throughout the region, will be best realised if countries in the region consult regularly and are able to speak frankly about their security concerns. Achieving this objective also requires the Australian Government to work towards the development of closer bilateral ties in the region in addition to contributing actively to region-wide security and economic dialogues. Regional dialogue will also be increasingly important as a means of working through other non-military threats to regional security. A key concern, for example, is ensuring environmental security throughout the region. Other issues, such as human rights, transnational health issues and international crime are also the subject of region-wide discussions. These issues require attention and joint action by regional countries.

Global Security Challenges

Although this speech is concerned with the enhancement of regional security, this region is as vulnerable to global security challenges as any other. Nuclear proliferation and the attainment of nuclear weapons by rogue states or political movements may in time constitute the greatest threat to Australian and global security. The Australian Government is completely opposed to continued nuclear testing. The Australian Government remains fundamentally committed to the terms of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Australia will continue to lead the way in driving forward negotiations for completion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and the Government will promote an Australian text for that treaty. I remain confident that there will be genuine progress towards a successful conclusion of the Treaty and a permanent ban on all nuclear testing in the near future.

The Government will also take all possible steps to prevent the transfer of nuclear weapons technology and the means of their delivery. Australia will also strongly oppose any action by existing nuclear weapons states which undermines the Non-Proliferation Treaty and which would therefore weaken incentives for threshold countries to remain non-nuclear.

As such I was pleased to announce about two weeks ago the \$2 million [Australian dollars] commitment this year which the new Australian Government has already made to the Korea Energy Development Organisation (KEDO). As evidence of our commitment, the Australian Government has already sponsored the second meeting of the Canberra Commission and looks forward

to receiving a constructive, practical and realistic report from the Commission.

The Australian Government will also work to achieve a ban on the production of fissile materials in addition to its maintaining its support for the elimination of nuclear weapons, a position established when the Australian Government of John Gorton signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1970. The Australian Government also recognises the problem posed by the development and proliferation of chemical and biological weapons and remains committed to international attempts to prohibit the manufacture and use of such weapons.

The Government also recognises that anti-personnel landmines continue to have a devastating and indiscriminate impact on people throughout the world.

The Australian Government recently made the historic announcement that Australia will:

- support a global ban on the production, stockpiling, use and transfer of anti-personnel landmines; and

- impose a unilateral suspension on the operational use of anti-personnel landmines by the Australian Defence Force.

It is interesting that it took the new Government less than six weeks to achieve this breakthrough whereas the previous Government had been unable to produce such an outcome within thirteen years in office. All of these developments are of concern to regional security for two reasons.

First, issues such as nuclear proliferation within North Korea and the landmines tragedy of Indo China are problems which disturb our own neighbourhood.

Secondly, the resolution of certain global tensions inevitably helps to create a less fractious and more cooperative international security environment and with it, a more harmonious regional security environment.

That is why in addressing global problems, we are also helping to make our region secure.

Conclusion

All of the above elements of our approach to developing regional security cooperation are mutually reinforcing and the Government will work on them simultaneously. This multifaceted approach, in which strong bilateral relations underpin effective multilateral regional dialogue grows out of the Government pragmatic approach to enhancing Australia's national interests.

As the great British historian E H Carr noted in 'The Twenty Years Crisis', "mature thought in international

relations combines purpose with observation and analysis. Sound political thought and sound political life is found where both reality and utopia have their place."

Australia and its neighbours must make the most of the present relatively benign security environment to set in place stable and enduring security arrangements. Only then will we have established the best possible conditions for all the countries of the region to pursue their other fundamental national interest — enhancing national prosperity.

In short, regional security, as with the building up of any relationship between friends, comes through interaction, through trust and through a long term belief in the security of those resources which are vital to continued development. With it, Australia's own security is assured. This outcome of a secure region and with it, a secure Australia will come about through the measures aimed at building up cooperation in the region which I have outlined today.

Australia: Minister Outlines Government's Priorities for Defense Force

BK0305092096 Melbourne Radio Australia
in English 0500 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia's defense minister, Ian McLachlan, has announced the two-month-old Coalition Government's priorities for the Australian Defense Forces in the year 2000. Mr. McLachlan says the government aims to increase the forces' combat capability while not increasing the overall defense budget. Mr. McLachlan says there will be cuts of \$100 million [Australian dollars] a year over the next three years in defense administration, and those savings will be redirected to combat areas. About 1,200 administrative and civilian defense jobs are expected to be cut. The defense minister says while there is no foreseeable threat to Australia it can't ignore the increasing size of military forces in the Asia-Pacific region. The minister says he'll look at ways to reinstate the capability lost in the land forces when the previous government closed down two regular army battalions. Mr. McLachlan says other goals are to reduce the loss of highly specialized defense staff to other employers and improved security cooperation with Australia's allies and regional friends.

Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea: Australia's Downer Signs Aid Agreement

BK0305022096 Melbourne Radio Australia
in English 0500 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Australia has signed an agreement with Papua New Guinea [PNG] for a \$34 million

[Australian dollars] aid project to help rebuild the town of Rabaul following the 1994 volcanic eruption. Graeme Dobell reports Australia's Foreign Minister Alexander Downer and PNG's Finance Minister Chris Haiveta signed the deal in Port Moresby.

[Begin Dobell recording] The \$34 million agreement is an example of Australia's move to change assistance to PNG from cash aid to projects. The agreement covers a volcano rebuilding program about to start around Rabaul in the next few weeks. Australia will help build 40 kilometers of roads. The aid will also go into four new community schools, a new high school, and a new police station.

Mr. Downer is to have talks and a working lunch with PNG's Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan. Before the meeting, Mr. Downer said that if PNG is to deal with its economic problems, it has no choice but to go along with a reform program agreed with the World Bank. [end recording]

Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands: Dutch Government Grants Asylum to BRA Spokesman

BK0305064196 Melbourne Radio Australia
in English 0500 GMT 3 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A special Australian Air Force charter flight took the Bougainville Revolutionary Army

[BRA] spokesman, Martin Miriori, and his family out of the Solomon Islands' capital, Honiara, under tight security on Wednesday [1 May] night. The Air Force jet was chartered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Canberra who feared for Mr. Miriori's safety. Mr. Miriori has been granted asylum by the Dutch Government.

Papua New Guinea's [PNG] defense minister, Mathias Ijape, issued a statement last night saying the Solomon Islands Government should have discussed threats against Mr. Miriori with PNG. Mr. Ijape said Mr. Miriori was a PNG citizen and any arrangement affecting PNG citizens must be made within international laws. The PNG Government is yet to be officially advised of the decision to fly Mr. Miriori to the Netherlands by the Solomon Islands Government or the UNHCR.

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